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) in the second

Ben Nevis

avalanche

kills young

climber

BY RAY CLANCY AND PETER VICTOR

A SCHOOLBOY who had

almost completed a three-mountain climb to raise

money for orphans in Ro-mania, died yesterday

when he was swept 200ft down Ben Nevis in an avalanche.

Bruce Snodin, 17, of Callander, Central, was

with two other climbers descending in the red burn gulley when it is believed

that they triggered the avalanche. Lochaber

mountain rescue team

said that recent heavy snow falls has heightened

On the roads, fog and frost yesterday were said to contribute to a spate of

fatal accidents. Three people were killed after a lorry jack-knifed on the

southbound carriageway of the M1 near Alfreton,

died two miles away on the A38 and around 60 yehi-

cles were involved in a crash on the M62. Police

said accidents on the Al near Wentbridge left one person dead and 13 in-

person dead and 15 in-jured, two seriously. Fur-ther south, six pile-ups on the Al and Al(M) near Doncaster claimed another life and left 26

A senior South York-shire police officer said visibility had been as low

as 20 yards and motorists

There will be frost and

patchy freezing fog again

today in all areas at first.

These may persist into the

afternoon over the Mid-lands, the south east and

some central areas. It will

be mainly cloudy over much of England and Wales with brighter spells

M-way crashes, page 4

were driving too fast.

injured.

45p

No. 64,522 54 di 54 die in holiday jet crash at Faro airport

From Martha de la Cal IN LISBON AND MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

MORE than two hundred people, including three Brit-ons, escaped the fiery crash of a Dutch holiday jet at Faro airport on Portugal's Algarve coast yesterday.

Fifty-four people died when a wing of the DC-10, operated by charter airline Martinair, touched the ground and burst into fiames after landing in strong winds and driving rain. Last night Portuguese officials said some of the 286 survivors suffered serious injuries. The Britons were named as John Watts and his wife Shella, and Gerald Sutherland.

The plane had taken off from Amsterdam early yesterday with mainly Dutch holi-daymakers on a Christmas break. After abandoning a first attempt to land at Faro, the DC-10 crashed when making a second attempt in winds of more than 40mph and a downpour. The left wing apparently touched the ground, causing the aircraft to swerve off the runway, break up and burst into flames. Witnesses said there were two explosions and a ball of fire shot into the sky. The nose of the aircraft came to rest 30 yards off the runway near the

After a wing touched the ground, the rear half of the plane burst into flames. "Then canic broke out in the cabin. Mariou Jonquerius, a survivor, said. "People were screaming and falling over

one another. Stewardesses were walking around with head wounds. The fire services came quickly but went to the wrong side of the plane, as I could see it. As I was running from the plane, part of the fuselage exploded. In the terminal it was chaos. There were no provisions and people were walking around badly burned

Survivors poured from the wreckage through emergency exits and through breaks in the fuselage. They were treat-ed in hospitals in Faro and Beja, and the most severely burned and injured were transferred to hospitals in Lisbon and Coimbra in Portuguese air force planes and

Of the survivors, 13 are said to be severely burned but most are simply suffering from shock. At Faro airport, passen-gers' luggage limered the run-way. Burst suitrases, charred books, swimming costumes and tubes of sun cream lay trodden by rescuers into the sodden sandy soil.

High wind blamed, page 7

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REPUBLIC 55F, TIALY L 3.000; LUKEMBOURG LF 60: MADERRA ESC 275: MALTA
43C: MOROCCO DR 25: 00: NORWAY 181;
16.00: FARDETAN RFS 18: FORTUGAL ESC
275: SPAIN FES 22: SWEDEN SER 16.00:
SWITZERLAND S FRS 3.80: TUNGSA DIN
2.00: 108.48 10.00



TUESDAY DECEMBER 22 1992



Ripped open: the Dutch charter DC-10, with the roof of its cockpit destroyed, lies near the runway at Faro airport after the crash that killed 54 people yesterday morning

Pit closures illegal, High Court rules

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND JILL SHERMAN

MICHAEL Heseltine was forced into a second retreat last night after the High Court declared his plan to close more than half the nation's coal pits

The president of the board of trade offered to review the future of ten doomed pits along with 21 other threatened collieries whose fate is being considered by government-appointed management consultants.

He is also to ask the consulants to check that British Coal is maintaining the threatened pits in a condition that would allow them to reopen; there have been allegations that some are being deliberately

run down. The climbdown came last night after Mr Heseltine's plans were left in disarray by Lord Justice Glidewell's ruling that the government and British Coal "unlawfully and irrationally" ignored the rights of mineworkers and their unions to be consulted in deciding first to shut 31 pits and in later ordering the early closure of

In a Channel 4 interview last night, Mr Heseltine admitted that the government had got it wrong because British Coal had not considered the consultation procedures demanded by the court

■ The government's energy policy has been left in disarray by the High Court judgment yesterday, but the cabinet may have been given a breathing space

to be necessary. He said he had accepted that advice but now that the court had taken a different position he had to respect its findings of the court. "I will do whatever is appropriate to help in the circumstances," he said.

Mr Heseltine declined, however, to give leaders of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers a commitment that no pits were certain to close, although he did promise to meet them again after Christ-mas. There have been indications over recent days that at least a third of the collieries would be reprieved, and yesterday's ruling put a question mark over far more of them. The government will now have to rethink its strategy not only for the mines but its whole energy policy, and there are certain to be delays in closing even the most heavily

loss-making pits.
In his ruling yesterday, Justice Glidewell said that both the original decision in October to close the 31 pits and the revised decision six days later to shut only ten were against the law. The judge, sitting

with Mr Justice Hidden, ordered that all the proposed closures be subject to independent scrutiny as well as the review procedure launched for 21 of the mines after a massive Conservative revolt against the shutdown programme.

The mining unions had daimed in court that British Coal had failed to implement the modified colliery review



procedure (MCRP), which lays down a step-by-step con-sultation process that can take up to nine months. Finding in their favour, the judges said yesterday: "British Coal shall not reach a final decision on the closure of any of the ten collieries, nor shall the president (of the board of trade) make available funds which would enable British Coal to reach such a decision, until a procedure substantially to the same effect as the MCRP including some form of independent scrutiny has been followed in relation to each of the collieries." The court indicated that the consultations already underway might properly form part of the proce-dure, but "what is needed is rapid addition" of some sort of

British Coal was last night considering an appeal. Arthur Scargill, the miners' union president, praised a "good ruling" by the court, which he said demonstrated the correctness of bringing the case. He called for the immediate re-opening of the nine pits that have ceased production and for the resignation of Mr Heseltine. "They have broken the law and we call for the threat to close 31 pits to be rescinded. Lawyers acting for

independent scutiny.

Continued on page 2, col 4

Aerobics teacher admits she made up 'kidnap' tale

By Stewart Tendler, crime correspondent

JOANNA Grenside, the aerobics teacher who claimed to have been kidnapped and held prisoner for 36 hours. concocted the story of her abduction and was never in danger according to Hertfordshire police yesterday.

Miss Grenside could now face prosecution for wasting police time in an investigation which a senior officer from a comparable force estimated last night could have cost up to 550,000. During the search for her. Hertfordshire police had to hire another force's helicopter at £400 to £600 an hour and organise extensive searches involving dog teams and divers.

Last night police sources said Miss Grenside, 25, of Harpenden, appeared to have no motive for inventing the abduction story. One senior office said: "We have found no motive behind her story of the abduction. It is not a question of her being somewhere or with someone she should not have been."

One theory last night was that she could be suffering from an eating condition such as bulimia and could not face the Christmas period. Detective Superintendent lan Whinnett, the senior investigating officer in the case, said it was "very likely" that a file would be submitted to the

Director of Public Prosecu-

No market for coal, page 2 Leading article, page 13

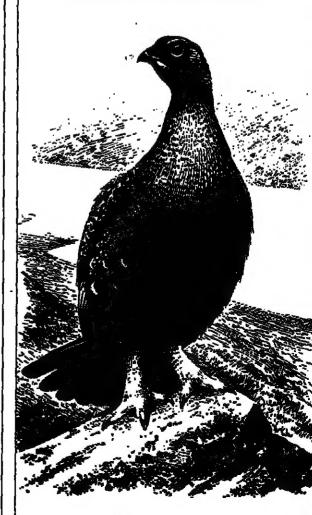
tions when his enquiries were complete. Asked what had happened to Miss Grenside, Det Supt Whinnett said: "She has told us where she was. am not prepared to go into details as the matter is sub judice." Mr Whinnett said the case "had changed direction completely" following a fresh interview with Miss Grenside

by police yesterday morning.

Forecast, page 16 Photograph, page 3 RAISED IN

THE HIGHLANDS

later.



FINEST SCOTCH WHISKY

QUALITY IN AN AGE OF CHANGE

Soldiers fire on Palestinians Panic cries foul as Milosevic wins poll

FROM TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

MILAN Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister, called for the annulment of the Serbian presidential elections last night as the hardline Slobodan Milosevic swept to victory. But the greatest victor was

the nationalist Serbian Radical party, which is led by Vojislav Seselj, who was named last week by Lawrence Eagleburger, the US Secretary of State, as a possible war criminal. The party militia has been identified by some groups as being behind the murder of about 3,000 Muslims in Brcko, northern Bos-

nia-Herzegovina, last spring. An aide to Mr Panic said that the demand for annulment was being made because of "fraud and cheating". He also said that some results announced by the Socialist

party were "incredible". Mr Panic demanded new elections within 90 days, but commentators said his move

was an attempt to save face. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, said before hearing the results that if there was no "radical and rapid change", then "we will move to the total isolation of Serbia and Montenegro".

The Bush administration denounced the conduct of the election as "decidedly unfair". Richard Boucher, the State Department spokesman, said: US and other Western observers have found significant irregularities. Many voters were excluded from voting because their names did not appear on the electoral lists."

Milosevic leads, page 8

A BARRAGE of mortar shells and heavy machinegun fire resterday wounded several of the 415 Palestinians deported by Israel four days ago, as they tried to re-enter the Israeli-controlled security zone in south Lebanon.

When the Palestinians approached the northern side of the security zone. Israeli soldiers and members of their militia allies, the South Lebanon Army, opened fire. At least two deportees were badly hurt, one with serious head wounds. Several others were still littering the bare landscape hours afterwards.

Witnesses said Lebanese army troops had moved out of their lines into the no man's land where the deportees have been stranded since Thursday. They encircled the makeshift camp and ordered them to leave. The Lebanese officers, in Jeeps and on foot,

FROM ALL JABER IN BEIRUT

told the deportees that they could not stay near the Lebanese lines any more.

They also said that all humanitarian organisations that had helped the deportees set up home on the hillside of Marj az-Zahour were banned from resuming their work. A military spokesman said that any aid organisations would have to use routes through the Israeli-controlled security zone if they wanted to reach

the deportees.

Muhsin Dallul, the defence minister, said Lebanon could not accept the deported Pales-tinians. "This tepresents a dangerous precedent that would affect Lebanon's march for peace and stability," he said. Mr Dallul said the deportees had been advised to leave their camp because it was dangerous for them to be in the middle of a frontline.

Witnesses said the Palestin-

ians, all said to be members of the Islamic Jihad organisation and Hamas, had held a meeting and decided to abide by the Lebanese orders. The

deportees then knelt to pray. They lined up in columns and marched in the direction of the security zone, unarmed and shouting "Allahu Akbar" ("God is greatest"). Each man held a copy of the Koran in one hand, and raised a finger of the other hand, signalling faith in God.

The deportees were reported to have taken cover behind rocks and slopes of Marj az-Zahour as an Israeli force of 20 military vehicles and 100 troops crossed the edge of the security zone to block their advance. In the afternoon they again tried to advance but were beaten back by machinegun fire and mortars.

Dreams destroyed, page 9

pleads for help

bring himself to speak of the masked rapist.

WE WENT THE WAY TO SEE THE WAY TO SE

Rape victim's father

The father of the teenage girl who was beaten and raped on her newspaper round at the weekend appealed for help

yesterday to catch his daughter's attacker. He could barely

oring himself to speak of the masked rapist.

"This terrible crime has devastated my daughter, my family and the whole community," he said. "We were all absolutely stunned by what happened and I would like to appeal to anyone who might have information to contact the police. Someone out there must know the person. I would police, someone out there must know the person. I would police as the police as

plead with them to come forward and speak to the police as

a matter of urgency as I would not like any other family to go

Mines reprieve: pithead joy cannot hide uncertainty in declining industry Court verdict will not create market for coal

BY ROSS TIEMAN INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

HOW must they feel this morning, those 30,000 miners whose jobs British Coal's board of directors, with government approval, sought illegally to destroy? A little better in their hearts, perhaps, but scarcely more certain about

The High Court has concluded that British Coal acted not only unlawfully but also irrationally in its decision on October 13 to close 31 pits. But a judgment is not the same as justice for Britain's miners. The High Court can-not make a market for the coal they produce.

Only a competent management, and a government committed to preserving jobs and economic sense, can slow and ultimately staunch the conindustry. And even if those conditions can be fulfilled, as they clearly are not at present, the job losses will continue.

The British coal industry has been in decline for decades. In 1955 British Coal's 740,800 employees produced 222.9 million tonnes of coal from 850 pits. Last year, 58,100 workers extracted 87.8 million tonnes of coal from 50 pits.

The contraction in output and employment is caused by changes in markets, and by the need to improve efficiency. North Sea gas has displaced a great deal of British Coal's former sales to householders. as well as to some industrial and commercial customers. Oil and nuclear power have cornered some of the growth

in UK power generation. At the same time modernisation of mining techniques and immense expenditure on

COMMENCARY

big coal purchases, and face a .

simultaneous squeeze on their

sales from gas power stations.

Coal's management to this impending problem was lack-lustre. They failed to modernise production fast

enough, or to give mine

managers the freedom they

need to match world coal

prices. Neil Clarke, the Corpo-

ration's sombre chairman, protested, too weakly, to min-

isters preoccupied with more

glamorous matters, or more urgent crises. British Coal

managers are still waiting, with evident frustration, for a ministerial order to enable

miners to work longer shifts.

Talks over coal and power sales from next March have

still to be settled. Meanwhile,

The response of British

miner to produce many more tonnes of coal. So each year fewer men are needed, in fewer pits, to maintain a given level of output.

The present energy crisis was triggered by the govern-ment's laudable, but utterly cack-handed privatisation of the electricity industry and the failure of ministers to respond when the flaws in their handiwork became apparent

Before power privatisation the government put in place three-year contracts which protected British Coal sales to the generating industry at an unrealistically high price for three years. Those contracts expire in March next year. At the same time, Whitehall designed a power market so absurd that low-cost coal generating plants are unable to sign the long term electricity

- have accumulated at pitheads and power stations. Into this impasse, dissected sale contracts needed to back

minutely for the past two months by both the Parliamentary Trade and Industry Select Committee, and a DTI enquiry, the High Court has lobbed its bombshell.

Of the ten pits scheduled for immediate closure, only one, the little Betws drift mine, employing 113 miners at Ammanford, Dyfed, remains in production. It was scheduled to close tomorrow.

At the remaining nine, col-lectively employing 7,237 miners, 1,870 miners, more than a quarter of the total, already volunteered for redundancy. The fabric of the mines is being maintained, but in many cases British Coal has already scavenged equipment for use elsewhere.

The select committee report, to be published on January British Coal sales to the generators, far from slumping from 65 million tonnes this year to just 40 million tonnes in 1993, and 30 million tonnes thereafter, should be maintained at about 50 million tonnes. The report will show that given a fair wind, the corporation can be profusble

within a few years. The government's white paper on the future of the coal industry, due a week later, will propose ways in which this can be achieved by squeezing out some of British Coal's overmighty competitors.

At best, 14 of the pits scheduled for closure are likely to be saved. Over the coming half decade, the pace of job losses must be maintained if mining British coal is to become economic.

Court roling, page 1 Leading article, page 13

a matter of urgency as I would not like any other family to go a matter of urgency as I would not like any other family to go through the distress and devastation we are experiencing." The girl, aged 14, was walking down an alley after she had delivered her last papers in a co. Durham village on Saturday morning. She heard footsteps behind her and thought they were those of a jogger. The rapist grabbed her from behind and dragged into a garden. She was badly beaten and was still in hospital last night. Her father said: "She can't remember anything except he hit her first and that was it. She's getting a little bit better now her eyes are opening. She has told us what she can and we're just giving her a lot of love and comfort." Detective Chief Inspector Max Curah, who is in charge of the investigation, said: "She's had a good beating up. I've never come across such injuries to a young woman." Meningitis alert

Parents have been warned to be alert for the signs of meningitis over Christmas after 11 children in Somerset became ill with the bacterium. The children, aged from one became ill with the bacterium. The children, aged from the month to 12 years, caught the disease in the past seven weeks and were taken to Musgrove Park hospital at Tainton. Eight have now been allowed home but one child was yesterday said to be still "poorty". Dr Tony Hill, consultant in public medicine at Somerset district health authority, advised parents to be specially vigilant over Christmas. GPs should be contacted immediately if a child detellors sprintenes of feaser headache vorniting, irritability. develops symptoms of fever, headache, vomiting, irritability, drowsiness, dislike of bright lights and a rash.

Bribe-case MP cleared

A Conservative MP has been formally acquitted of bribery charges and awarded his defence costs. The prosecution at the Old Bailey offered no evidence against Harry Greenway. MP for Ealing North, on seven charges that he accepted bribes from Plasser Railway Machinery (GB) and two of its executives to use his parliamentary influence on their behalf. Mr Justice Buckley said he had no hesitation in ordering not-guilty verdicts to be entered. He formally cleared Plasser and its managing director and company secretary, Norbert Jurasek and Michael Brooks, of corruption charges. The decision to drop the case followed the collapse charges. The decision to drop the case followed the collapse of a separate trial which did not involve Mr Greenway.

Widow aged 99 attacked

A widow who is due to celebrate her 100th birthday next month was fighting for her life yesterday after being attacked at a council old people's home. Police said that Sarah Burke is unconscious with a fractured jaw and cheekbone. She was found covered in blood in her bed at a county council residential home in Redruth, Cornwall, on Sunday morning. Nothing was stolen from her ground-floor room and no valuables were kept there. Her attacker is thought to have escaped through the window. Cornwall social services said: "There is tight security at all our homes and people are on duty round the clock, but we cannot put bars over the windows."

Blood transfusion alert

The Swiss Red Cross issued an urgent appeal yesterday for foreigners who received blood transfusions in Switzerland between 1982 and 1985 to get in touch with their doctors. A spokesman for the Swiss Red Cross said that Switzerland had not been able to carry out positive Aids tests on blood until the end of 1985, and was now checking people who received transfusions at that time to ensure that they had not received contaminated blood. As many as 50 Britons are thought to have been included among the foreigners who received blood transfusions in Switzerland before the positive screening system was

Transvestite con

A transvestite slept alongside girls at a children's home after conning police and social services into believing he was a female teenager in distress. The man dressed in girl's clothes and calling himself Laura, walked into the Civic Centre police station in Southampton and broke down and wept, saying he had nowhere to go. Officers referred his case to Hampshire social services. After an hour's interview, he was taken to a children's home, put in a bedroom with girls and slept the night. The next morning staff became suspicious and discovered "Laura" was a 24-year-old man. A police spokesman said no offence had been committed and the man was allowed to leave. A police spokesman said: "When a psychologist interviewed the 'girl' it became clear Laura was a man — but you could not have told by looking at him. She looked like a girl and that's what police thought they were dealing with when she came in."

Family rail ticket



Leonie Alderman, 21, who has become one of British Rail's youngest female train drivers, celebrating yesterday with her father, Bob, also a train driver. She will take trains in and out of London's Liverpool Street station. A Network SouthEast spokesman said: "We are delighted to welcome her to the fold and that she has achieved so much at such a young age. She is Network SouthEast's youngest woman train driver."

Bank robber mugged

A man who robbed a bank of £1,800 was mugged by two men in an alley near by, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. It was believed that the two may have intended to rob the bank in Barner, north London, but found that Stuart Everton, 20, had beaten them to it. They followed him, took the money and pretended to police that they had chased the robber and lost him. They form offered to study and chased the robber and lost him. lost him. They even offered to give evidence against him. Everton, who was arrested several days later outside another bank in north London, admitted three robberies and related firearms charges. He was put on probation for two years and ordered to do 80 hours' community service. Both muggers were tracked down by the police and arrested.

The giant hole that government dug for itself

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Michael Heseltine announced his decision to close 31 coal. pits within six months, the plan seemed doorned to failure. Within hours of the announcement on Tuesday, October 13, senior members of the cabinet were trying to distance themselves from a decision which they claimed they had not been consulted

Within six days, the prospect of a Tory backbench rebellion over the closure programme forced the government into an embarrassing retreat. While Tory whips were putting pressure on MPs to support the programme, a High Court estarted over whether British Coal had breached em-

Nevertheless the government decided to go ahead with

BACKGROUND

closing ten of the pits, this time with the statutory 90 days notice required for redundancles, while setting up a review to consider the future of the

Since then Mr Heseltine has been retreating further and further and it is clear that many of the 21 pits would have been reprieved even without the High Court

judgement.

The president of the board of trade only told his cabinet colleagues about the decision to close 31 pits at a meeting of the overseas and defence policy cabinet committee, held on the morning of October 13 to discuss Europe. The meeting was attended by the full cabinet except Gillian Shephard. the employment secretary, Sir Patrick Mayhew, Northern Ireland secretary. Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, and Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary. Sir Nicholas Lyell, the

FROM the moment that and the employment secretary was represented by Patrick McLoughlin, a junior

> Mrs Shephard made dear later that she was furious about the speed of the decision and the timing of the pit closures - the first were due to shut that Friday. Douglas Hurd, foreign secretary, and David Hunt, Welsh secretary, also made it clear that they had not been informed of the full details of the closures.

Neil Clarke, chairman of British Coal, had a number of meetings with government ministers in the nine months before the announcement. In the final three months meetings were held with just Mr Heseltine and Tim Eggar, energy minister. Mr Heseltine is believed to have consulted only a cabal of ministers, including Kenneth Clarke, home secretary, and Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, before making his devastating

He argued that he was planning to put the closure programme to the full cabinet that Thursday and to announce it in the Commons the following Monday, but had been bounced into an early decision by British Coal after a spate of media leaks. Yesterday the main question being asked at Westminster was whether the government had sought legal advice before the first announcement of 31 pit closures and, crucially, before the revised announcement of

ten closures. Officials yesterday refused to comment on whether parliament's law officers had been consulted by the employment department or the Depart-ment of Trade and Industry (DTI) at any time during ministers' discussions about the closures with British Coal. The official line was that no department could comment on legal advice given by the law officers.

that DTI officials presumed that British Coal had taken legal advice on the matter and yesterday they were striving to make it clear where the blame lay. A spokesman for the DTI said the government would always take legal advice on matters it was responsible for. but not those over which it had no responsibility. "We do not take legal advice in respect of

British Coal decisions." It emerged later that British Coal had not given the employment department the 90 days' statutory notice it is required to give if it makes

other people's decisions. Brit-ish Coal is reponsible for

more than ten people redundant. Mrs Shephard only received official notice of the 30,000 redundancies on Thursday, October 15, two days after Mr Heseltine reveals the plan. The company subsequently withdrew that notice period, replacing it with another to cover the ten closures still expected to go ahead. It is understood that Mrs Shephard raised the lack of consultation with British Coal when Mr Heseltine

British Coal was vague yes-terday about whether it had sought proper legal advice on

Face of victory: Tony Benn, MP for the traditional pit area of Chesterfield, at the Commons after hearing the ruling

the coal market. Under the procedure every pit is reviewed each quarter. Once a decision is made about a closure unions made the official announcehave a complicated appeals process which includes an ultimate referral to a panel of lawyers. The spokesman pointed out

either decision, although

officials pointed out that the

second decision had been

government inspired. A spokesman said the company

had decided not to implement

the full colliery closure review

procedure, which can take up

to nine months, because it

needed to close the pits quick-

By PAUL WILKINSON

"THE best Christmas present one could wish for" was a phrase constantly on people's lips yesterday in the streets of Seaham, co Durham, around the Vane Tempest colliery.

Yet in a part of the world that has learnt that fate rarely deals people any favours, there was a reluctance to be too jubilant too soon.

tion, "How long is the

Even before the autumn announcement that Vane Tempest was one of the ten oits to be closed forthwith, its 940 miners knew their longterm prospects were dim. For the past 12 months their pit had made an increasing loss and British Coal had put the mine on review.

up to six miles out to sea and miners can waste up to an hour on slow-moving "land riders" getting to the face. Drilling for new reserves at sea costs up to a £1 million a borehole. Local people, however, have regained hope and a

Coal's employee relations di-rector, said at the time of the

first announcement: "It is

apparent that the colliery re-

view procedure can play no

role in salvaging the prospect of mines named for closure."

the process was an internal

procedure which had no stant-tory force. "I do not know

what, if any, guidance was given from our legal advisers."

why the company had not

given 90 days notice of redun-dancies to the employment department or British Coal

The spokesman was unclear

The spokesman argued that

breathing space.
Joe Robson, lodge secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers said: This will give the whole community a boost when they were facing a bleak Christmas with nothing

ployment prospects for the to us in the first place."

British Coal said last night that a decision to resume coal

attorney-general, is said to have attended the meeting It is understood, however, Ruling means union laws will have to be rewritten

By Frances GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

TRADE union laws will have to be rewritten in the light of yesterday's High Court ruling that the government and British Coal "unlawfully and irrationally" ignored the rights of mineworkers in deciding to close 31 pits, lawyers said vesterday.

Mark Stephens, solicitor for the mineworkers' unions. hailed the ruling as having far-reaching implications for UK trade union laws which had been shown to be defective and out of line with the European directive 129.

The ruling showed that section 188 of the Trade Union Labour Relations (consolidiation) Act 1992 was defective in the way it provided for consultation over mass redundancies. The act required consultation only when redundancies were proposed. and not at the earlier stage when they were contemplated. Mr Stephens said. "That denies mineworkers the opportunity to make representations about what the reasons are for closure, for example."

Second, the ruling shows the UK legislation is defective in not requiring consultation over whether redundancies are needed at all. The court has now held that there should be such consultation, and not just consultation over how these should be achieved. John Hendy QC, counsel for the mineworkers, described this aspect of the ruling as a very important decision for English industrial relations

" He said the ruling had a second important legal implication. It gave to miners - or other workers in the public sector a new legal remedy: they could challenge collective agreements by way of judicial review. Until now, such collec-

LEGILYEW .

tive agreements between unions and public sector employees have not been thought enforceable.

Yesterday's declaration by the judges makes clear in the strongest possible terms that both decisions to close the pits - first all 31 and then six days later only 10 while the others underwent a review - were unlawfully reached.

It is the latest and most dramatic example of judicial review, one of newest and fastest growing areas of the High Court work, which enables individuals to challenge decisions by governments or public bodies; and confirms what judges consistently

maintain when under fire,

that they can and do rule against governments.

Although Conrad Dehn, QC for British Coal, announced it was considering an appeal, that is thought unlike-

ly. Mr Stephens said the consequences of the ruling were clear. "As the basis for those decisions to close the pits has been ruled illogical and irratinal, the local step is that mining must resume at those pits; that follows inexorably from the ruling." Miners who had opted for

voluntary redundancy under the "false apprehension that British Coal was not going to consult and was under no legal obligation to do so" were entitled to their jobs back, and compensation for the additional pay they would have received had they been in work, he said. In terms of legislation, the government is expected now to have to amend the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Bill, now before Parliament, to

take account of the ruling.
The legal costs of the High Court battle are unofficially estimated at \$500,000. The judges awarded the UDM all their costs, while the NUM will receive 50 per cent of its legal expenses against British Coal and 40 per cent against

Closures ruled unlawful

Continued from page I the mining unions hailed the ruling as "a most amazing

Christmas present from the judges to the miners", while John Smith, the Labour leader, wrote to John Major saying that his party's contention that all 31 pits should be covered in the review had been

Conservative MPs opposed to the closure plans also welcomed the court decision and called on the government to use it as a breathing space to ensure that it eventually it came to the right decision. While the unions and the

Opposition rounded on the government, Conservative MPs concentrated their criticism on British Coal and its chairman Neil Clarke. Whitehall officials also tried to distance the government from the renewed furore, suggesting that British Coal had been responsible for ensuring that legal procedures were fol-lowed. But Robin Cook, the shadow trade secretary, said that ministers should not try to "pass the blame" on to British Coal for having taken "wrong and unlawful" decisions. "Ministers were consulted at every step, involved at every step, and they must now

accept their share of the

Reprieve gives hope but for how long?

The news that the pir's abrupt closure last October had been ruled illegal by the High Court was met with elation, but it was followed almost as quickly by the ques-

reprieve?"
Bill Brooks, 72, a fish and poultry dealer, said: "People will be overjoyed at the news, but the problem is what happens next?"

Two neighbouring collieries closed last year and the local branch of the NUM was told this summer that Vane's thin seams and geologically unrelifate inevitable. Its shafts run to look forward to. The em-

YEW FROM PITHEAD

men at the pit were awful. Now our lads will be happy that their jobs are not going down the drain in the immediate future. What we have got to do now is start producing coal again and show the government and British Coal that they should have listened

extraction at Vane Tempest would depend on any appeal by the company. Maintenance work had been continued on the pit's two faces and mining could resume within



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DSS pays interest for thousands with six-figure mortgages

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT AND ANGELA MACKAY

MORE than 3,200 people with mortgages of about £100,000 are having their interest paid each week by the social security department.

This week it emerged that the department was paying £1,800 a week to cover the housing costs of a former millionaire. Trevor Deaves, 39. who lost his £400,000-ayear job as chairman of the MI Insurance group two years ago, signed on for income

ago, signed on for income support in July.

Mr Deaves may be entitled to part and full payment of the £1.833 interest payments a week for a full year under ministry rules, although a spokesman said that such high payments would be closely monitored. Until July, Mr Deaves kept up the payments Deaves kept up the payments on his £832,500 interest-only mortgage on his house set in 66 acres in Hasiemere, Surrey. He bought Tree Top Farm for £925,000 nearly three years ago, and lives in a cottage in the grounds with his second wife Jacqui.

A statistical "snapshot" tak-



Ian Maxwell: risk of bankruptcy

Maxwell must pay £500,000

By ANGELA MACKAY

IAN Maxwell was ordered day to pay £500,000 damages to the Mirror Group pension funds plundered by his late father. If he fails to pay by January 18. bankruptcy proceedings could be started against

The interim award was won by the liquidator of Bishopsgate Investment Management (BIM), the company that adminis-tered the funds. A spokes-man for Robson Rhodes, the liquidator, said Mr Maxwell told the court that he could not pay the money

by the deadline. in July, the liquidator won summary judgment against Mr Maxwell's brother, Kevin, for £406.5 million. After he could not settle the amount, Kevin Maxwell, 33, became Brit-

ain's biggest bankrupt. Mr Justice Chadwick held yesterday that Ian Maxwell, 36, was in breach of the duty he owed BIM as one of its directors when he signed five stock transfers to a Swiss bank without an assurance that they had been approved by

BIM's board. The judge said: "It is no answer for Ian Maxwell to say that he signed the stock transfer forms in reliance on his brother's signature." He added that £500,000 was a reasonable pro-portion of the amount liketo be due after an enquiry into BIM's loss. Mr Maxwell was denied leave to appeal.

Hundreds more former high-flyers are likely to join those seeking help with their mortgages as unemployment rises

en by the ministry in May 1991 revealed that he is one of at least 3,200 people who are being paid £200 a week in full mortgage interest. About 5 per cent to 6 per cent of all mortgages are for more than £100,000.

Shelter, the charity for the homeless, believes that the numbers may be much higher. A spokeswoman said last night: "We would be extremely surprised if that figure hadn't risen since then given that there are so many more people in arrears with their mortgages now."
Income support is open to

all those who are either unemployed or working less than 16 hours a week. More than five million people receive income support, and this number is growing alarmingly, says the Child Poverty Action Group.

Those claiming income sup-port are entitled to apply for help with their mortgage. If a householder has savings of less than £3,000, he or she may have 50 per cent of the mortgage paid for the first 16 months. After that period they are entitled to claim for two months at 100 per cent which may be extended for six months if their claim is approved by an adjudicating

Banks and building societies do not keep specific records of how many of their mortgagees are having their interest paid by the department, particularly since legislation introduced last year meant that all these payments are now paid directly by the department to the lender.

Considering the number of high net worth individuals, such as Mr Deaves, who have lost their jobs in the City during the past couple of years, it would not be unusual for several hundred of them to be receiving supplementary benefit. However, few appear to have been successful in claiming. One City headhunt-er said that, of the few clients she knew who had applied,

because of the value of other cash assets.

Bankrupts may have difficulty claiming mortgage benefit because once they are made bankrupt, all their assets go into a pool to be realised and distributed among creditors. A mortgage is included as an asset and lenders often foreclose immediately to secure the

High profile bankrupts such as Asil Nadir and Kevin Maxwell did not claim mortgage benefit because their homes are in the names of their spouses. George Walker, another entrepreneur fallen on hard times, lost his house immediately because other loans had been secured

against it.
There are several other cases in which formerly rich busi-nessmen have had help with repayments. Peter Julien, an unemployed interior designer, bought his home in Hampstead, north London, in 1989 and made two payments on the £630,000 mortgage before his business failed.

He asked for state help to meet repayments of £1,784 a week and was given social security benefits which totalled £32,000 over a period of six months. The home was repossessed and eventually sold by the Town and Country Building Society.
The department also paid

the £600-a-week mortgage interest on a businessman's fourbedroom home at Darwen. Lancashire, when his finance and mobile communications company got into difficulties.

A money market trader and broker remortgaged his maisonette in Islington, north London, a week after losing his job in 1989. Interest payments on the class are payments on the £138,750 loan, which came to nearly £420 a week in 1990, were paid by the department.

Mr Deaves said after news of his payments from the department first became public. "I have paid a lot of tax in the past and am simply claiming what I am entitled to."



Centre of attention: Joanna Grenside, right, with a policewoman last Thursday

Kidnap hoax a cry for help

By Jeremy Laurance HEALTH SERVICES

THE discovery that Joanna Grenside made up her story of having been abducted at knife-point and held hostage in silence has shown how people crave attention in the same way that they need food, psychologists said last night. As the starving will fight to eat, those who feel ignored may go to extreme lengths to get themselves noticed.

In the short term, Ms Grenside's disappearance, which led to a huge police search, may have served its purpose by attracting national attention to her plight. But

now she will have to face her family and friends, knowing her secret is out, which will add to the immense personal difficulties that must have driven her to fake her disappearance in the first place.

"One of the things we cannot bear is not to be noticed." said Dorothy Rowe, a psychotherapist and author of books on depression. "We need other people to signify our existence. For those of us with a strong sense of ourselves we can adopt the view that anyone who doesn't recogmise us is an idiot. But sadly, quite a lot of people lead lives where nobody recognises their

existence " When people are asked to

choose between a world where they are safe and have food and shelter but are completely ignored and one in which they are widely noticed but everyone is hostile, most opt for the hostile world, Ms Rowe said.

However, Jill Curtis, spokeswoman for the British Association of Psychotherapists, said Ms Grenside would now have to cope with the humiliation of

being found out.

"Nobody gets to the point of walking out without being under intense pressure. But how do you come back when you've done something like that? She is going to need a lot

Disappearance hoax, page 1

Industrial espionage alleged by editor

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE managing editor of The Sunday Times believed he was a target in a campaign of industrial espionage involving British Airways and Virgin Atlantic Airways after his refuse was taken from outside his house by a private detec-tive, a court was told yesterday. Roger Eglin, a journalist with 30 years' experience and a specialist in aviation, told a jury at Isleworth Crown Court that his rubbish was taken in the middle of the night only

days after he had lunch with the managing director of Vir-gin Atlantic, Syd Pennington. John Reilly, 47, a private detective from Twickenham, southwest London, has admit-ted taking the refuse from Mr Eglin's home in March but pleaded not guilty to charges under the Theft Act 1968.

saying he believed he was not doing anything unlawful. Brendan Finucane, for the prosecution, said Mr Reilly drove to Mr Eglin's home in Teddington, southwest London, at lam. He was seen by a neighbour, Mary Rose, who told the court that she became suspicious when she saw him walk up Mr Eglin's gravel drive. "He was treading very carefully. I could see

he was on uptoes."

Mr Rellly said he took three of the five rubbish bags and searched them for Mr Eglin's correspondence. He believed his task was merely "to con-firm that Mr Eglin lived at that address". The next day he met his client. Stuart Francis. another private detective, to hand over the mail.

Mr Reilly agreed under cross-examination by Mr Finucane that there was "a possibility his assignment could have been ordered through a series of intermediaries to disguise the real client.

The jury was shown copies of an article by the Sunday Times Insight team published in August alleging an industri-al espionage campaign car-ried out by British Airways

ried out by British Airways against Virgin.

Mr Reilly was asked by his counsel, Gerald Bermingham: "Did you at any time know anything about British Airways and Virgin and matters like that?" Mr Reilly said: "I knew nothing at all."

The trial continues today.



WHETHER for news or entertainment, on how to enjoy or to survive Christmas, The Times will be essential reading during the Christmas season.

On Christmas eve, a new

short story by Barry Unsworth, joint winner of the 1992 Booker Prize for Sacred Hunger, will be published in an eight-page Christmas section.

There will be full television listings for Christ-



Unsworth in print

mas eve, Christmas day and Boxing Day, includ-ing Michelle Pfeiffer in The Fabulous Baker Boys, our critics' choices of films and music on television. and a jumbo crossword.

Boxing Day
The Times, with four sections, will be the only quality newspaper on sale. The Saturday Review looks back at 1992 and selects the images that capture the spirit of an annus horribilis. The Weekend



Pfeiffer on film

section features a game of political snakes and

Special offers include a free Channel crossing and a £1,932 saving on transatlantic flights.

Clarke chooses TV chief to lead prison service reform

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT.

THE head of a satellite television company is to be the next chief of the prison service. He will be paid almost twice as

much as his predecessor. Derek Lewis, who has never set foot inside a prison, will have a salary of £125,000. plus a performance-related element of up to 35 per cent of that figure. His predecessor as director general of the prison service. Joe Pilling, a career civil servant, earned £63,000 and is to move to a job in the

Cabinet Office.
Mr Lewis, who on his resignation last year as chief executive of the Granada television group received a £579,000 pay-off, said yester-day: "Clearly I don't bring any particular knowledge of the prison service to the job. I bring a very broad business background in a wide variety of different organisations which I think will be very relevant to the sort of changes in the prison service in the

Mr Lewis is chairman of UK Gold, a new satellite television channel which he helped to launch last month. He was chief executive at Granada, the television to motorway services group, until last year, when he resigned after the company unveiled a

financial package to reduce debts and secure its future. By appointing an outsider

to be chief executive of the prison service when it becomes a semi-independent government agency next April, Kenneth Clarke is signalling that the government wants to overhaul the running of the organisation and that he wants to inject private sector management skills into the operation of the jails. Mr Lewis, 46, was chosen from a shortlist that included

Denis Tunniciffe, the managing director of London Underground, and Mr Pilling, a civil



servant who has worked at the Home Office, Northern Ire-land office and health department, and who has been director general for only 16

Mr Clarke praised Mr Pilling's leadership but said Mr Lewis would bring in private-sector skills that, he hoped, would bring new dynamism to the prison service and speed up the rate of progress

in improving it.
Tony Blair, the shadow home secretary, demanded last night that the government disclose the performance indicators on which Mr Lewis's additional pay will be based.

In addition to his salary and

performance-related bonuses. Mr Lewis will remain as non-Gold, to which he will devote about one day a month of his Almost one third of the £94 million spent by the Home

Office keeping prisoners in police cells in 1991-2 cannot be properly accounted for, a report by the National Audit Office said yesterday. Home Office officials paid out £30.8 million to local police forces without receiving adequate proof that the money had been spent as claimed, the report by the spending watchdog said.

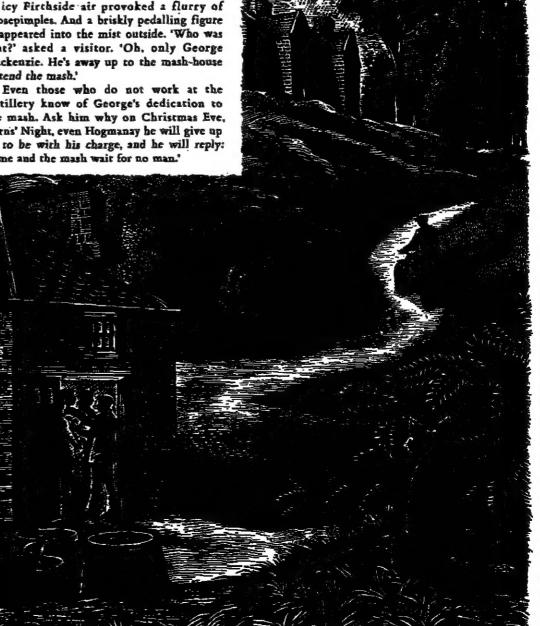
SINGLE HIGHLAND MALT SCOTCH WHISKY.

GLENMORANGIE

GEORGE MACKENZIE. Mashman.

T WAS CHRISTMAS EVE, and the annual ▲ Glenmorangie party was in full swing. Somewhere a door opened. A sudden waft of icy Pirthside air provoked a flurry of goosepimples. And a briskly pedalling figure disappeared into the mist outside. 'Who was that?' asked a visitor, 'Oh, only George Mackenzie. He's away up to the mash-house to tend the mash.'

distillery know of George's dedication to the mash. Ask him why on Christmas Eve, Burns' Night, even Hogmanay he will give up all to be with his charge, and he will reply: 'Time and the mash wait for no man.'



HANDCRAFTED by the SIXTEEN MEN of TAIN.

West End shows threatened by strike

By Alison Roberts ARTS REPORTER

BACKSTAGE workers are threatening to close theatres in the West End of London from Boxing day with a strike over pay.

The arbitration service Acas will tomorrow attempt conciliation between the theatre technicians' union, Bectu, and the West End theatre employers' association. If talks fail, backstage workers say they will begin a strike on Boxing day, disrupting the busy holiday season.

Box-office hits including Miss Saigon. Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and Barnum will almost certainly be forced to close if theatre technicians walk out.

The result of a ballot on the pay offer from the Society of West End Theatre was announced yesterday. More than 90 per cent of those who voted rejected the offer of a 2.5 per cent pay increase.

The union is seeking a 5 per cent pay

ers earn much less.

Jerry Morrissey, the union's national officer, said that box office staff, carpen-

ters, lighting technicians, costume workers and usherettes would strike on up to 20 of the largest and most successful shows. "If members do not come to work, the show would close for the night, if only for health and safety reasons," he said. "If theatre managers had available stats on a different night they could offer those to customers, but many people who take families to see shows at Christmas

will be disappointed." Nick Allott, executive director of Cameron Mackintosh's production company, said it would "find a way of delivering something" to audiences if theatre staff walked out. There are five Cameron Mackintosh productions in the West End, including Cats, Joseph and Les

rise. It says that about a quarter of theatre workers earn up to £15,000 a year, but part-time front-of-house workers earn much less.

Jerry Morrissey, the union's national particularly at Christmas, you owe it to them but I down to a them. But I don't believe it will come to a strike. Common sense will prevail."

The Society of West End Theatre was

confident that an amicable settlement could be found, "as has always been the case". But Peter Morris, the society's industrial officer, said the West End had suffered because of the recession and pay increases were bound to be small. "The most difficult thing to do is raise investment money for new shows and it doesn't help if you allow the production costs to escalate," he said.

Rikki Newman, a master carpenter on Willy Russell's Blood Brothers at the Phoenix Theatre, said: "I have been working in the theatre in different countries for 25 years and this is the lowest scale of pay I have seen."

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Police warn of worsening conditions

Six killed in multiple crashes in freezing fog

ONE person died and at least 20 were injured when more than 60 vehicles collided on the M62 yesterday. A tanker caught fire and five people had to be cut free from their vehicles in the crash, one of at least 20 incidents in freezing fog on roads in the North and

Police said the crash, at midday at Junction 24 -Ainley Top - on the westbound carriageway, an ex-posed section of the motorway in West Yorkshire, was caused when motorists travelling too fast for the treacherous conditions braked to avoid a smaller

ploughed into each other.

More than 70 fire-fighters from brigades around Huddersfield were called to deal with the burning lorry and to free injured drivers. Four lorry drivers were trapped in their vehicles for an hour.

Casualties were taken to Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Eva Lambert, the hospital man who had been killed was already dead on arrival at the infirmary. Five of the casual-

ties were seriously ill and undergoing surgery that might involve amputations. Another five involved in the crash were detained for observation, but a further 13 casualties had been treated for minor injuries and discharged.

One of them, a woman in her 30s from Manchester who did not wish to be named. said: "A lorry jack-knifed in front of me. I slammed on my brakes but another lorry hit me from behind and I was thought I was going to die and I can hardly believe I am

An ambulance spokesman said the majority of the casualties were suffering from minor blankets and drugs were ferried to the scene from Huddersfield General Infirmary.

sections of the M62 at the time

Chief Inspector Mel Bunning, of the West Yorkshire police motorway unit, said: "People just don't take less than criminal behaviour.

"I don't think drivers are learning. We keep asking people to drive slowly and I don't think that many of them know what slow is. "We give the same message

out time after time to slow

down, and we deal with the Police warned drivers last night that weather conditions would worsen, with sub-zero

temperatures and visibility

falling to between 30 and 200

dents in Derbyshire yesterday. Two people were killed on the A38 dual carriageway near Alfreton, and three other motorists died when a lorry jack-



Crush survivor: the driver of this car escaped from the wreckage after 60 vehicles crashed and a tanker caught fire on the M62 yesterday

There's over seven pounds difference between them.



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Elderly win ruling on rest homes

TWO widows in their eighties won a legal victory yesterday that gives rights to more than 100,000 elderly people over the future of council-owned old people's homes.

Mabel Curtis and Elizabeth

Broxson, both 86, won the right to be consulted over the future of their council-run home in Wingate, co. Dur-ham, when the Court of Appeal held that they were being treated unfairly in being told "virtually at the eleventh hour" that it was earmarked for dosure. After the hearing, Durham County Council promised to consult the women properly about the closure proposals.

The judges held that residents should be consulted well in advance — not individually, but in groups — over closure decisions. The ruling will be important to all 110,000 elderly people living in council-

In a parallel case, the judges ruled that residents at two homes in Devon had received adequate notice of closure.

Last July, the High Court held that "administrative chaos" would be caused if people adversely affected by closure decisions had to be consulted. It was the responsibility of councillors to put forward the views of their constituents. Lord Justice Dillon, siring with Lords Justices Farquharson and Simon Brown, said yesterday that, for a council to act fairly, residents should have a recomplete time. should have a reasonable time to put their objections.

In the Devon case, the residents knew well in advance. Support committees were formed, well-publicised demonstrations were held outside County Hall, Exeter, and resolutions opposing closure were debated. The Durham case was different because the residents were "helpless" when told that the closure of the home was on the agenda for a meeting in five days'

The way it isn't



MINISTERS are to be challenged over hidden "perks" available to the Queen and members of her family during the past few years. Ken McBitter MP announced yesterday. "I am astounded that in

this day and age, the Queen should not pay for her own ribbon." McBitter said to a stunned press conference. "During the past 30 years. the Queen has been cutting on average two ribbons a day while opening shop-ping precincts, launching ships and unveiling bypasses. Yet for all this ribbon she has personally destroyed, she has yet to pay a

McBitter is also making "urgent enquiries" as to whether the royal household has borne the cost of wear and tear on the scissors, and is to demand that

Angler wins ruling on bait digging By JOHN YOUNG

AN ANGLER on the beach who equips himself with a spade to dig for lugworms to bait his hook can no longer be

In what will be seen in piscatorial circles as an historic judgment, the Court of Appeal yesterday established for the first time the legal right of sea anglers to dig for bait on the foreshore. Lord Justice Evans, sitting

with Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny, allowed an appeal heard earlier this month by Anthony Anderson against his conviction in November 1990 for breaching a local authority bylaw by digging lugworms from the beach at Boulmer Haven near Alnwick, Northumberland. "We hold that a public right

to take worms from the foreshore is recognised by the common law and may properly be described as ancillary to the public right to fish." Lord

Mr Anderson's conviction had earlier been quashed on the technical ground that the map attached to the bylaw was misleading. But until yesterday anglers had been waiting for a judgment on the wider issue.

"We accept that past toler-ance does not establish the existence of the right," Lord Justice Evans said. But the public right to take fish from the sea and tidal waters had been jealously guarded from Magna Carta onwards. To restrict the use of worms as bait, which were only to be found in the sand of the foreshore, would itself have been a restriction of that

However, the right should not be unrestricted. "The taking of worms must be directly related to the actual or intended exercise of the

public right to fish.

Taking for commercial purposes is not justified in this way. But digging bait by an individual fisherman for his communication in cleanty in the communication in the communica his own use is clearly justified," he said

in future the Queen provides her own.

McBitter then announced that he had "conclusive evidence" that Princess Margaret had been letting it be known that she was the sister of the Queen. "I can think of

in haberten

no other reason why the princess should have been asked to preside over so many ceremonies, often with a free meal beforehand," declared McBitter to a hushed conference. He then listed further "exclu-sive perks" lavished upon the royal family, including: ☐ Secret waiving of the normal £2.50 entry fee to the public rooms of Wind-

☐ Free access to the royal enclosure at Ascot □ No need to queue with other members of the pub-

sor Castle

lic at the state opening of Parliament

☐ No charge to watch the Royal Variety Show. "It's an outrage," boomed McBitter, stress-

ing that his annual subsidy as MP and Euro-MP was: "barely more than the cost of keeping a single Ethiopian village alive for 25 years, if that".

Minister praises improved results but highlights continued weaknesses in the three Rs

Patten orders enquiry into low scores for primary school tests

By John O'Leary, education correspondent

JOHN Patten, the education secretary, yesterday welcomed an improvement in sevenyear-olds' test results, but ordered an investigation into "unacceptable" differences in the performance of local

Fire Magazine

Official league tables showed some inner city areas scoring well while others "failed badly" in the controversial tests in English, mathematics, science and technology taken by more than 600,000 taken by mo pupils. Counties such as Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire will be among those facing an enquiry into results below the national average.

Mr Patten said there was a clear improvement in the results compared with those for the first national tests for seven-year-olds last year. He praised the hard work of pupils and teachers, and at-tributed rising standards at seven to the "positive effect" of the national curriculum in raising expectations and set-

ting targets.

However, the minister highlighted weaknesses in the
three Rs that gave no ground
for complacency. The figures showed about one quarter of seven-year-olds were unable to read a simple passage aloud or do straightforward mental arithmetic such as five plus four. Girls did better than boys across almost all subjects.

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Labour said that the results were virtually worthless because tests took up large amounts of classroom time without telling teachers or parents much more than they already knew. "These results probably reflect the socio-economic map of Britain, as do most exam results," said Ann Taylor, shadow education

There was little change in the government's ranking of local authorities, although Harrow in northwest London.

the top area for GCSE and Alevel results, took over from Richmond upon Thames at the head of the table. Cleve-land, one of the few authorities to record lower results than in 1991, replaced Bradford at

Mr Patten also included spending levels for each authority in the tables for the first time. Although Wigan, the most frugal area, also had the leavest streets are the high light. lowest success rate in the high grades. Westminster finished in the bottom quarter despite spending more on nursery and primary pupils than any other surborition.

other authority. Teachers and administrators maintained their opposi-tion to the publication of the scores. The results showed less variation between authorities than in 1991. In all but 17 of

the 107 authorities, between 77 and 86 per cent of pupils reached the expected level. Performance at the higher levels was spread more widely. In four London boroughs -Bromley, Hackney, Harrow and Richmond upon Thames - almost a quarter reached the standard expected of a nine-year-old. But in Wigan only 6 per cent managed the feat, and in Barnsley and Cleveland only 8 per cent.

The differences were equally stark broken down by subject, with high-achieving areas outstripping the worst by at least 20 points in English, reading. mathematics and technology. In English, 86 per cent of pupils in Richmond upon Thames reached the expected standard, compared with 63 per cent in Newham, east

The biggest improvement was in Bradford, last year's bottom authority, which always maintained that its more

London.



Adding aid: Kimie Markarian teaches James Barrow, 9, to use a Japanese soroban at Earls Colne school, Essex

Cleveland criticises 'distortion'

BY PAUL WILKINSON

CLEVELAND, at the bottom of the government league table for testing of seven-yearolds, claimed yesterday that the figures were misleading and gave "a distorted picture of primary school education standards in Cleveland and the country as a whole".

Keith Legg, chairman of the county's education commit-tee, said: "It is simply wrong for the government to suggest that, on the basis of these raw figures, it is possible to make any valid comparisons between various education au-thorities. Perhaps the key reason for this is a total lack of what is known as 'moderation' of the results from different authorities. In other words, there is no real effort to ensure that similar standards of testing are being

applied in every area, and no independent checking." Gordon Hodgeson, Cleve-land's chief education adviser. described the league table as inadequate and simplistic. He said that to judge the relative performances of education authorities it was necessary to take account of social and economic factors. "Clearly this table takes none of those factors into account and all the evidence in recent years shows that, when they are taken into consideration and comparisons property and fairly conducted. Cleveland has an excellent education service."

Cleveland has 203 primary schools with 53,000 pupils. and 44 secondary schools attended by 35,000. Only three secondary schools have a sixth form. More than 90 per cent of children go to sixth form colleges, which have a total of 3,500 pupils.

The October unemployment figure for Cleveland was

18 per cent, but in some wards the figure is higher. In Thorntree, Middlesbrough, the unemployment rate is 27.8 per cent, with 38.4 per cent of males jobless.

MATHEMATICS: PERCENTAGE OF PUPILS AGED 14 AT EACH LEVEL 10

Confusion masks pupils' failure to reach science targets

By JOHN O'LEARY EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

measure the progress children made once they arrived at school. Doug McAvoy, the

general secretary, said the tests

made no allowance for the

type of areas schools served and factors such as the num-

ber of pupils with English as a

second language and the ex-

succeeded."

MORE than half of the 14year-olds taking last summer's pilot tests in science failed to reach the level expected of their age group. Mathematics results were better, with more than 60 per cent meeting the

Last June's controversial tests in the two subjects were the biggest pilot yet undertaken for the national curriculum.

Four out of five state secondary schools and more than half of the independent sector took part.

However, ministers have agreed not to publish a breakdown of the results by school or local authority. Unpublished reports for the School Examinations and Assess-ment Council, which is responsible for the tests, have acknowledged that the results are not reliable. Mathematics papers were easier than those

for science, and marking schemes were unclear. Next year's tests, which will be extended to include English and technology, will be com-

pulsory. Those for mathematics and science have been revised to take account of criticisms by the council's assessors and teachers who administered the pilot. However, teachers and parents might boycott the English tests, which will not be finalised until next month.

Monitoring of the pilots by Her Majesty's Inspectorate found some schools reporting record attendance. More than 350,000 pupils were entered for one of four sets of papers. based on their teachers' assessment of their ability.

There was confusion vesterday about the point on the national curiculum's ten-

point scale of achievement that 14-year-olds should expect to reach. The education department's commentary on the tests said that those reaching levels five or six had "reached the national targets which are expected to be within the compass of a typical pupil of their age". But John Patten, the education secretary, set his criterion at level six, reducing the numbers reaching target levels in science to 15 per cent.

John Sutton, the general

only 15 per cent met the target in the first tests, then you would have to wonder if the target had been placed wrong-ly. We are sorry that the results are being published at all because we think the purpose of a pilot is to iron out the kind. of shortcomings that we pointed out earlier this month."

secretary of the Secondary

Heads' Association, said: "If

Mr Patten said the national curriculum and testing were helping to improve standards.

INCATES MANY FORTHES, RESIDENCE League Table of 107 English Local Education Authorities ranked by percentage of seven-year-olds reaching Level Two or above — the target set for a typical child aged seven — in English, maths, science and technology. Level Three is equivalent to the standard expected of a typical nine-year-old. The third column gives funding per nursery/primary pupil in each area in 1991. In the fourth column, the LEA with the highest level of funding is ranked 1, the lowest 108.

104

		·		L at le	vel 2 &	ahove	% 2&	at level		LEA rank by			,	6 at le	ei 2 &		2 &	at level 3 &	pupil	rank by	
P	°0\$	Authority	Sci	Tech	Math	Engl	above	above		foding	Pos	Authority	Math	Tech	Sci	Eng	above	above	91-92	fading	
-	1	Нагтом	 94	89	86	85	89	24	1,480	28	52	Berkshire Brant	87 87	77 80	76 79	76 76	80 80	15 14	1,340 1,670	50 17	1
		Richmond-upon-Thames	94	89	65	86	88	24	1,530	22		Camden	87	84	77 .	74	80	22	1,710	14	1
	3	North Yorkshire	92	86	. 85	83	87	17	1,230	93		Essex	87	77	78	79	60	14	1,240	89	1
		Bromley	92	87	83	83	86	24	1,410	36		Gateshead	88	79	78	75	80	17	1,390	37	ł
	•	Havering ·	92	89	82	82	88	14	1,290	67	57	Hemmersmith and Fulham	88	79	79	73 77	80	22	1,970	3	1
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		Hillingdon	93	87	85	81	86 86	22 20	1,540 1,250	87		Hounslow Islington	89	-80	76 77	74	80	21	1,510 1,770	11	ı
		Isle of Wight	94	85	86	. 82		22	1,360	46		Newcastle upon Tyne	87	79	79	76	80	18	1,520		ı
		Sutton	93	88	81	82 81	86 85	23	1.550	20		Salford	88	84	75 77	74	80		1,270	23 76	1
	10	Barnet .	92	83 85	84 83	81	85	17	1,190	104		St Helens	87	79	77	78	80	13	1,210	100	١
		Comwall/I of Scilly	91	86	82	81	85	19	1.240	89		Wakefield	89	78	78	77	80 79	12 14	1,340	50	ł
		West Sussex	92	83	81	80	84	17	1,370	43	65	Bextey	86 85	82 77	72 77	78	79	14	1,440	78 31	ı
	13	Derbyshire	91	83	80	80	84	17	1,240	89		Calderdale Ealing	86	80	76	75 74	79	19	1,690	16	1
		East Sussex	92	83	82	80	84	19	1.200	102		Nottinghamshire	88	77	78	.73	79	17	1,390	37	1
		Gloucestershire	90	87	80	79	84	15	1,430	33		Staffordshire	88	74	76	77	79	9	1.270	78	١
		Kingston upon Thames	88	86	. 80 81	78	84	22	1,750	12		Wandsworth	85	81	76 76	75	79	20	1,820	10	ł
		Merton	92	87	78	80	84	15	1.230	93	71	Buckinghamshire	87	77	76	75	78	15	1,320	56 65	ı
		Somerset	91		82	81	84	14	1.340	50		Coventry	86	77	75	74	78	8	1,300	65	1
		Surrey	90	82			84	19	1,170	106		Durham	85	75	76	74	78	13 19	1,370	43	1
		Trafford	91	85	81	79	84	16	1,220	98		Kensington and Chelsea	85	81	76	72	78 78	16	2,060 1,300	2	١
		Warwickshire	90	82	- 81 -	81			1.260	78		Kirklees	86 86	76 73	76 76	74	78	10	1,310	65 61	ł
	22	Cheshire	90	81	82	80	83	15		50		Lancashire Leeds	85	82	74	73	78	15	1.430	33	ı
	_	Cumbria	90	83	80	79	83	15	1,340	33		Leicestershire	86	76	76	75 73 72 73	78	13	1.290	67	ŀ
	•	Entield	91	82	81	79	83	20	1,430	72		Rotherham	85	77	77	73	78	13	1.340	50	ł
		Norfolik	90	82	18	79	83 -	14	1,280			Southwark	88	80	76	69	78	17	1.850	7	1
		Northumberland	91	82	80	78	83	14	1,320	56		Waltham Forest	87	76	77	69 73	78	16	1,570	18	ł
			90	77	82	81	83	13	1,260	78		Wican	87	71	78	77	78	6	1.140	107	ĺ
		Setton	91	86	- 77	78	83	18	1,290	67		Wolverhampton	87	74	75	76	78	14	1,390	37	Į
		South Tyneside	90	83	78	78	82	15	1,320	56	84	Botton	84	74	76	73	77		1,220	98	ł
	29	Avon	88	81	81	77	82	12	1,190	104		Dudley	85	77	74	74	77	11	1,230	93	1
		Bury	90	82	76	80	82	16	1,440	31		Hackney	.86	74	77	72	77	24	1,900	6	ĺ
		Croydon	89	81	80	80	82	14	1,310	61		Humberside	86	75	74	73	77.	12	1,280	72	١
		Devon	89	83	79	76	82	15	1.250	87		Lambeth	88	74	75	72	77	19	1,840	8	Į
	•	Doncaster		84	77	79	82	16	1,290	67		Lewisham	· 85 86	79	74	70 71	77 77	19 17	1,710	14 43	١
		Dorset	89	82	78	. 77	82	14	1.360	46		Oldham	86	75	74	73	77		1,370 1,200	102	1
		Hereford and Worcester	90		76	76	82	16	1.210	100		Rochdale Sunderland	87	74	74	73	77		1.280	72	١
		Lincolnshire	89	87	79	78	82	11	1,310	61		Westminster	85	74	74	72	"		2,110	7	ı
		North Tyneside	89	83		80	82	11	1.230	93	0.4	Liverpool	86	73	73	73	76	12	1,290	67	ı
		Northamptonshire	90	80	80		82	15	1.350	48	-	Manchester	85	78	. 72	73 69	76		1.320	- 56	1
		Shropshire	91	81	78	77	82	13	1.310	61	96	Barking & Dagenham	85 84	72	72	74	75	14	1460	29	١
		Suffolk	90	82	79	78	82	17	1.320	56	00	Barnsley	83	73	72	70	.75		1,260	78 5	ſ
		Tamasida	90	80	79	77		16	1,260	78		Tower Hamlets	85	76	71	68 71	75 75		1,940	5	1
		Wiltshire	90	83	78	79	. 82			72		Walsali	84	74	72	71	75		1,510	24	l
		Wirral	91 .	75	81	. 80	82	16	1,280	42	100	Knowsiey	82	70	73	72	74		1,390	37	ı
	44		87	82	77	76	81	12	1380	42 78		Sheffield	86	74	68	69 68	74		1,390	37	I
	44	Cambridgeshire	89	83	77	76	81	13	1260		102	Birmingham	81	73	69 71	68 70	73 73	12 13	1,260	78 26	f
			90	86	77	73	81	22	1,840	. 8		Bradford	80	69	69	70 69	73 73		1,500 1,720	13	Ì
		Haringey	89	.79	77	77	81	14	1,120	108		Greenwich	84 79	71 72	70	72	73		1,450	30	1
-		Kent	89	80	79	76	81	13	1,570	18	400	Sandweil Novemen	79 77	69	66	63	68		1.490	27	I
		Oxfordshire	88	76	80	79	81 .	21	1,350	48	106	Newham Cleveland	80	52	88	68	67		1,230	93	ŀ
		Redbridge Solihuli	87	80	79	80	81	. 14	1,240	89 78	.07	England	-				80	15	,	[L
		Charles de	88	78	79	80	81	13	1,260	70								-			

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No 10 finds few faults with much-maligned honours system

JOHN Major's plans to reform the honours system, the twice yearly ritual in which money. birth, loyalty and occasionally merit are rewarded by the state. will not be as sweeping as many of its critics would have liked.

Changes to be unveiled early in the new year to bring the system. up to datewill not be "wholesale or" dramatic" because the system "is a proper reflection of merit in our society", Mr Major said. The changes will be piecemeal and incremental, and will be evident

Mr Major's announcement will comes as no surprise to ardent critics of the system, such as Tony Benn, the Labour MP for Chesterfield, who want to see the entire edifice swept away and replaced by a system of parliamentary medals. But changes will have to be made in at least three areas if the honours system is to recover from the criticism of recent years.

First, the anachronistic class distinction between the Member of the British Empire (MBE) and the British Empire Medal (BEM)

from the Queen's Birthday Hon-ours List in June. Whitehall has been the target of increasing for the honours system to be ridicule. It is not that the BEM is revamped to reward those who the lowest of the awards which causes offence but the citation which accompanies it: "Awarded to those who do not qualify by rank

> John Major's goal of a classless the same weight to the achieve-society may be little more than a chimera. But many believe that the currently given to political, diplotype of honour given to volunteers, firemen, people in the medical services, and other selfless citizens - by far the most popular element of the honours system - should no longer depend on "social rank".

Indeed, the 1990 all party commission on citizenship called

played an active part in society through voluntary work, cam-paigning, and whistle-blowing. The commission insisted that this could best be achieved by granting

Second, automatic honours for Whitehall time-servers can be expected to be gradually phased out: Home civil servants, honoured under the Chivalrous Order of the Bath, and Foreign Office diplo-

matic, and administrative achieve.

mats, honoured under the Order of St Michael and St George, can no longer claim that knighthoods and membership of some archaic imperial order are needed to

compensate for low pay.

The third area is political honours, the one element of the system that tarnishes all the rest. But Mr Major's reforms are likely to stop short of any significant overhaul. Since the time of Lloyd George, when a peerage could be bought for £100,000 and a knighthood could be had for £10,000, the

purchasing of honours has been Despite the creation in 1925 of the political honours scrutiny com-mittee, the feeling that the hon-. ours system is open to abuse is widespread.

According to a survey carried out after publication of Baroness Thatcher's resignation honours list in December 1990, 68 per cent of the industrialists given peerages since 1979 were from private sector companies who had donated £4.38 million to Tory party

It is true that many companies contribute to Tory party funds and receive no honours and that some business executives have been. honoured without making contri-

is seen as "unhealthy". Likewise, the claim of Nicholas Winterton, the Tory MP for Macclesfield, on Granada's World In Action programme in 1988 that honours have been bestowed on politicians who, against their better judgment, have toed the party line, came as no great surprise. Nothing has changed.

Party discipline remains essential for effective government, and the honours system helps it along. The central defect, however, remains that too few honours go to those whose life and work really

Lamont's job safe as Major rules out new year reshuffle

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

terday, making plain that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, is safe in his job after persistent speculation that he would be moved to a fresh post in January. Mr Lamont is expected to deliver the March

Mr Major, returning from his weekend visit to the United States, said: "If I thought it was necessary to have a reshuffle, or if I found someone who patently was in difficulties in doing their job, then of course I would make those changes as and when it was necessary, and I would make them immediately I thought it was necessary. But I do take the view that it is wise for ministers to have sufficiently long in a job to get thoroughly on top of it, to be able to drive policy themselves, to be able to fix the holes in past policy, to be able to carry out their own ideas about how policy should devel-op in the future."

He then told the BBC: "I find that moving ministers around too speedily is not conducive to good govern-ment. I am not anticipating a January reshuffle." Asked specifically about the Chancellor, asked me whether there was about to be a reshuffle and I indicated that there was not."

In a wide-ranging interview, Mr Major suggested that the monarchy would emerge strengthened from its present troubles and said that the government had suffered a good deal of bad luck in the period around Black Wednesday. As to whether there had must make up their minds about that". Asked whether he thought the government had made mistakes, he said: "A government that never made

mistakes never did anything."
Asked whether he would have resigned if the Maastricht treaty debate had "gone

Timing holds key to success

in cabinet switches

mons, he replied: "Well, it did not go the wrong way, so the situation does not arise."

The prime minister made plain that he wanted to turn his attention to the domestic agenda in 1993 and spoke of "recreating the enterprise cul-ture" that was so successful in the 1980s. Companies must have the confidence to carry out capital investment.

Mr Major predicted a Gatt agreement early next year. He said that, over the weekend "when it looked as though it was going astray", the meet-ing with President Bush and Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, had put it back on track.

He backed moves towards liberalisation of the Sunday trading laws. "That is becoming overwhelmingly the view both of commerce and of the public at large and I think the success of Sunday trading in recent months, although many dislike it, has been quite

Royal audience: John Major discussing affairs of state with the Queen at Balmoral earlier this year

The Queen finds a friend in deed to withstand her annus horribilis

WHEN John Major re-formed his government after the April election, he compared the process to going round the Grand National course. There might be the trade and industry departsuch as the spurned invitation to Edwina Currie, and David ment, and .1.7 years at trans-Mellor's eventual departure in port between 1964 and 1991. September. But Mr Major But prime ministers and Lord hoped the riders would stay on Chancellors managed 4.7 the same mounts for some years on average over the

So it was no surprise when Mr Major confirmed yesterday that there is "not about to be a reshuffle". Ministers should have "sufficiently long in a job to get thoroughly on top of it, to be able to drive policy themselves, to be able to pick the holes in past policy, to be able to carry out their own ideas about how policy should develop in the future. I think moving ministers around too speedily is not conducive to

Mr Major spoke from personal experience, having held five posts in just over five years. Professor Richard Rose of Strathclyde University has shown that on average cabinet ministers spend only 2.5 years

The average time has varied little between the relatively short-lived Tory and Labour governments of the 1970s and the one-party rule since 1979

— though there is a big

SIR Robin Butler, the cabinet

called before a parliamentary

enquiry to be questioned about the £4,700 paid by the

Treasury towards Norman

Lamont's legal fees for evict-

ing a "sex therapist" from his

Sir Robin will be asked by

the Commons public ac-

counts committee about the

rules on the use of public

funds to help ministers and

on the details of comparable

contributions towards the le-

gal bills of former cabinet

ministers. The committee,

which has a majority of Tory

members, is also understood

to be anxious to find out if Sir

Robin knew of and sanc-

tioned the payment.
The MPs will focus on

questioning senior civil ser-

vants about the report on the

contribution to Mr Lamont's

legal fees which is being

drawn up by Sir John Bourn.

the public spending auditor.

Sir John will give his report to

the committee in mid-Janu-

ary. The hearing with officials

about his findings is likely to

be arranged for February.

London house.

average only 1.3 years at the

Mr Major's desire to keep ministers in the same post longer has been welcomed. But it is easier at the start of a

parliament than later when

political pressures are greater.

Mr Major has backed Nor-man Lamont. For all the Chancellor's recent brushes with controversy, he has been resilient and skilful in the Commons. He has been given the chance to complete the readjustment of policy since Britain left the European exchange-rate mechanism, and to develop the institutional and tax reforms he started. Keeping Mr Lamont in place suits Mr Major's interests. The other buffeted senior minister, Michael Heseltine, will also be allowead to complete

his review of energy policy after the pit closures climb-down in mid-October. Otherwise, key ministers are in the middle of legislation or

Legal fees enquiry digs deeper

By Sheila Gunn, political correspondent

Sources close to Sir John's

office indicate that the report

could criticise officials for

including the payment under the broad heading of Trea-

sury running costs", certified

by the National Audit Office.

likely to comment directly on

the ethics of the payment, but

he looks certain to give details

of public payments, and their

declaration, towards the legal

costs of other ministers, such

as Lord Lawson of Blaby, the

former chancellor, and Lord

Young of Graffham, the for-

mer trade and industry

Although the MPs on the

committee will not take a firm

decision on which officials to

question, some of the commit-

tee predict that Sir Robin will

be invited because he draws

up the guidelines to perma-

nent secretaries, who are the

accounting officers for their

departments, about the use of

Sir Terence Burns, the Trea-

public money in such cases.

sury's permanent secretary and joint head of the home

civil service, and his predeces-

The auditor-general is not

instead of being itemised.

schools and 16 to 19-yearolds, John MacGregor with rail privatisation and finance for roads. Michael Howard with the council tax and green policies, and Kenneth Clarke with the police). Some on the Toty right complain that their views are insufficiently represented in the cabinet, but they have only two or three plausible candidates for promotion. The key to any mid-term

reshuffle will not only be Mr Lamont, but also Douglas Hurd. He shows no sign of wanting to step down as foreign secretary in the immediate future and may even continue to the end of the parliament. Any changes could feature Sir Norman Fowler, who left the cabinet nearly three years ago, but who has regained political weight as party chairman.

Even though the govern-ment has been through a rough patch, Mr Major does not want to be forced into the rarely useable tactic of a re-shuffle until either he has to do so or it fits into his election preparations. Shifting the Chancellor and the home secretary now would mean giving up the chance of a switch later. Mr Major knows that the key to reshuffles is the

PETER RIDDELL

sor Sir Peter Middleton, are

also likely to be called. Sir

Peter sanctioned the £4,700

contribution, towards Mr

Lamont's £23,000 legal bill.

be looking again at the guid-

ance to permanent secretar-

ies, to set out more precisely

when public money can be

used, following the furore

over the Chancellor's legal

fees. Mr Lamont's advisers

are confident that the pay-ment in his case was within

the guidelines. However,

rules on expenses incurred as

a private citizen and a public

servant appear to be blurred.

chancellor, has written to

John Major asking for a new

code of conduct to be agreed

The Commons committee

on members' interests is also

considering changes to order

all MPs and ministers to

declare donations in the regis-

ter. The committee is looking

at a complaint about the

remaining £18,414 of Mr

Lamont's legal bill which was

paid by anonymous Tory par-

and made public.

ty supporters.

Gordon Brown, the shadow

Sir Robin is understood to

BESIEGED and bloodied by annus horribilis, her decision whole value of hereditary Queen's liking, although the that she must now offer to pay monarchy is under scrutiny. income tax, and the formal He cancelled an important

fire, tabloids and domestic upheaval in recent weeks, the monarchy appears to have found a knight on a white charger in John Major. In a wide-ranging interview on BBC Radio 4 yesterday, the prime minister took time to defend the embattled royal family and to declare his faith in its future.

Answering questions from Robin Oakley, the BBC's political editor, during a flight back from Washington, Mr Major said he did not believe that the monarchy was threatened. The institution of the monarchy is enduring. It is an essential part of our landscape in this country," the prime

Speaking in the wake of a month of ill winds that have buffeted the Queen, from the fire at Windsor Castle, through her admission of an

separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales, Mr Major said: "If one looks over the past 250 years, there have been many times when the monarchy appeared to be running into difficulties for one reason or another.

"I believe the monarchy will weather the difficulties it has had in recent months and will emerge strengthened. I detect no enthusiasm in this country for anything other than a continuation of the constitutional monarchy. I detect no

appetite for change."
In contrast to his predecessor, whose relations with the head of state were impeccably correct but, by all accounts, personally cool, Mr Major has gone out of his way to display his support for Buckingham Palace when the meeting with Jacques Delors,

president of the European Commission, to announce to the Commons the separation of the Prince and Princess of Wales. Constitutionally, he had no need to do so, but he wished to save the Queen and her family the embarrassment of a backbench uproar over why the House was not the first to know.

The monarch has probably not enjoyed such a warm relationship with a Conservative first minister since the days of Churchill, who positively worshipped his young and tender queen. Macmillan was respectful but essentially patrician. Douglas-Home too briefly in the post. The almost presidential style of the Thatcher administration was said to be not entirely to the

truth will not be known until. state papers are released. Labour ministers, with the

exception of intellectuals such

as Richard Crossman, seem to enjoy warm relations with the monarch, and vice versa. The queen was supported unwa-veringly by her two Labour prime ministers, the humble but clever Harold Wilson and the rather grander James Callaghan. During the inflation-ary years of the Wilson administration the Queen had to go twice, crown in hand, to her socialist prime minister

and plead poverty.

On both occasions Wilson fully supported her pay rise, although he did set up a select committee on the royal finances in 1971. Once again the royal finances are under review, and once again a highly sympathetic prime minister is at the helm.

A baby died after being scalded in the bath when his young brother turned on the hot tap. Police said the death of James Evans, aged nine months, of

Top-price toy

A Ferrari Testarossa pedal car sold at auction for just over £6,000. John Panteli, 15. of Croydon, south London, sold the car to help to pay for his education. The full-size version costs about £120,000.

Driver jailed

limit when he drove off a ferry in Dover, Kent, was jailed for six months. John Issac, 35, was also banned from driving in Britain for five years.

The comedian and singer Kenny Lynch is recovering at home after a triple heart bypass operation. Jimmy Tarbuck, Bruce Forsyth and Adam Faith visited him in the

Boy's damages

Stephen Pearson, 10, of Ascot, who has cerebral palsy be-cause of a hospital blunder at birth, won £730,000 damages

4,000 sets of new American handcuffs designed to allow them to restrain suspects faster and more safely.

MP wins £150,000 over libel

By A STAFF REPORTER

GEORGE Galloway, the Labour MP for Glasgow Hillhead, won £150,000 in libel damages and costs in the High Court yesterday over allegations that he was a liar who abused parliamentary privilege.
The Daily Mirror and the

Daily Record had published a vitriolic attack on Mr Galloway the day after he tabled a motion in the Commons last year inviting MPs to reflect on allegations in the book The Samson Option about the involvement of Nicholas Davies, the Daily Mirror foreign editor at the time, in arms dealing, and the betrayal of Mordechai Vanunu, the Is-

raeli nuclear technician, to the Israeli authorities. The papers had falsely accused Mr Galloway of abusing parliamentary privilege to make untrue allegations about Mr Davies.

☐ Baroness Bruntisfield won libel damages in the High Court yesterday over false allegations in Tatler that the restaurateur Nicky Kerman was her son.

Reynolds expects to confound critics and lead Irish coalition

By Edward Gorman, ireland correspondent

THE Irish Republic, which went to the polls to elect a new government on November 25. s not expected to get one until January 11, breaking all previous records for coalition

building. It is virtually certain that the voters will be presented with a Fianna Fail-Labour partnership when the negotiations are completed. This is not what many of them would have expected after Labour's significant gains and Fianna Fail's poorest showing in its history.

But the failure of the socalled rainbow coalition of Fine Gael. Labour and the Progressive Democrats to materialise has given Albert Reynolds, the Fianna Fail leader and acting prime minister, a new lease of political life. As one observer in Dublin put it yesterday: "The crazy thing is that the man who got the lowest turnout for Fianna Fail in the party's history who lost nine sears, which is a catastrophe - is now going to return as Taoiseach in charge of a government with the

biggest majority in the history of the state." Part of the reason for the delay of almost two months is the determination of Dick Spring, the Labour leader, to

work through every area of policy to ensure that big divisions do not arise to weaken a coalition that he hopes

Originally, Mr Spring had said that he wished to rotate the office of prime minister during the lifetime of the next government, but that idea has now been dropped. Labour hopes instead for at least six of the 15 cabinet seats, a significant share of the junior ministries and the implementation of many of its main policies.

The discussions being held at government buildings in



Spring: seeking six Labour cabinet jobs

Dublin are dealing with a joint programme on health. education, disability and childcare. A final manifesto is not expected to be agreed until the new year, delaying the election of the new prime

minister until the second week of January. Mr Reynolds has done his best to dispel the perception that Ireland is drifting through Christmas and into 1993 without a government. He told the Dail after tendering his resignation to Mary Robinson, the president, last week that no one should think there was no government. His administration remained in full control and with full

powers, he said. One interesting anomaly is the predicament of John Wilson, who decided to retire from politics after a long career representing the Cavan Monaghan constituency near the border, and did not stand in the election.

Despite this, he remains deputy prime minister and minister of defence. In theory, if Mr Reynolds fell ill, Mr Wilson would become the country's first entirely unelected prime minister, neither a member of the Dail nor the

NEWS AN BRIEFA

Ex-taxman robbed to pay loans

A retired taxman robbed a bank using a fake gun after falling behind with repay-ments on loans taken out to his daughter's university

education. The Old Bailey was told that bank staff and passers-by seized Frederick Cowen, an arthritis sufferer, as he hobbled away from a Midland Bank branch in Whetstone, north London, with £1,500, after brandishing the gun made from garden hose and a piece of metal.

Cowen, 68, of Upper Holloway, north London, who has a son in the police, admitted robbery and possessing an imitation firearm. Judge Pownall put him on probation for three years after medical reports disclosed his financial plight had brought on a depressive illness.

Animal rights arson attack

Animal rights activists are suspected of causing a blaze that gutted offices at a Milk Marketing Board farm yesterday. Bomb disposal experts were called in after incendiary devices were discovered strapped to two tractors at the farm.

The fire brigade was called to Warren Farm in Lam-bourn, Berkshire, shortly be-fore 7am. "It is believed the building houses records on the slaughter of beef," said police.

Whales row

A pod of seven killer whales was still swimming around a Shetland inlet as experts argued about whether they were in danger. Local people were advised to try to drive them out of Cat Firth if they were still there last night by Dr Peter Evans, a whale expert in Oxford. But "it is most important human interference be avoided", the Scottish Agricultural College said.

Lawyer to sue

A woman lawyer who was charged with handling stolen property is to sue Essex police for wrongful arrest, false imprisonment and malicious prosecution. Magistrates at Chelmsford yesterday awarded Hazel Jones, 29, a four-figure sum to cover her legal costs in the criminal case, which was dropped.

Scalding death

Brecon, Powys, was being treated as an accident

A Belgian lorry driver who was five times over the alcohol

Singer recovers

Middlesex Hospital.

in the High Court from East Berkshire Health Authority. Quick cuffs

Police in Hampshire are using

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High winds seen as key to holiday jet disaster

BY NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

STRONG crosswinds or a sudden loss of lift because of wind shear were last night suggested as possible causes of the air crash in Faro, Portugal.

The weather was poor, with 40mph winds and driving rain. The pilot of the Dutch DC-10, owned by the charter firm Martinair, gave no indi-cation of technical problems as he came in to land, and Faro airport has a generally good record. This is the first big crash since the airport opened in 1967 as a destination for charter companies flying holidaymakers to the

Algarve.
The pilot, who survived the crash, was too shocked to provide any account of what had happened. The "black box" recorder was recovered and is being analysed. The pilot of a Martinair Boeing 747 which had landed shortly before the DC-10 reported seeing flames coming from the aircraft as it landed, but Joaquim Ferreira do Amaral, the Portuguese transport minister, said that the most likely cause of the crash localised bad weather. The

A headwind, then a powerful downdraught and finally a tailwind. A pilot of a modern jet has no way to beat a succession of all three

aircraft broke up after one wing struck the runway, and burst into flames. Final figures of deaths and injuries were delayed because some passengers appear to have escaped and made their own way to hospital or to hotels. In spite of the disintegration of the plane and the fire, most of those on board survived the

The DC-10 made at least two attempts to land in difficult conditions. According to Francisco Severino, the assistant airport director, on its final attempt "the plane had already landed, but the wind came under the wings and lifted it back into the air." A wing touched the ground and the aircraft broke into two.

The circumstances suggest a last-minute loss of control, most likely caused by weather conditions. Sudden changes of wind direction are among the most difficult challenges faced by pilots. The most extreme cases are caused

when a region of air cools rapidly and plummets to earth like a waterfall, spreading out in all directions as it survived. nears the ground. A pilot flying into such a disturbed region of air first encounters a adwind, then a powerful

den loss of lift. Benno Baksteen, chairman of the Dutch pilots' associ-ation, suggested this might be the cause. "A sudden loss of wind can cause the aircraft to lose wind speed suddenly and to such an extent that it can no longer fly and falls". United Airlines, which has

downdraught, and finally a

tailwind with consequent sud-

carried out extensive studies of the problem, warns its pilots not to take off or land if the flight path has localised heavy wind or heavy rain, and to consider holding back if there is serious turbulence, rain showers, or lightning. Most of yesterday at Faro.

The crash does, however,

ing survivability. Any crash which occurs near an airfield with the aircraft under control is now considered survivable. American statistics show that between 1988 and 1991, 242 passengers and crew died in crashes, while 528 survived. In the previous eight years 1.000 had died and only 116

There is no special recipe for survival. The strongest section of any aircraft is the region where the wings are attached, and in survivable accidents it is common for the nose and tail to be detached. breaking the aircraft into three. The old adage that the rear of the aircraft is the safest has little statistical support. In yesterday's crash, the front section remained more or less intact, while the mid-section and tail were the worst damaged.

Yesterday's accident is yet another chapter in the un-lucky history of the DC-10. Of the 445 built, 18, or 4 per cent. have crashed, compared with only 1.2 per cent of the comparable Lockheed L-101 is, and 1.5 per cent of the Boeing 747s.

Two bundred escape, page 1



Search for clues: workers sifting through the wreckage at Faro airport yesterday

STEEDS IN BILL

Tajikistan rebellion defeated

Moscow: The main strong hold of Islamic rebels in Tajikistan fell to pro-government forces on Sunday night after three days of fierce fighting, Tass said yesterday.

The news agency said there were casualties on both sides after an intense battle for Kofernikhon, 15 miles east of the capital, Dushanbe. (Reuter)

Trial goes on

Berlin: A court decided to con-tinue with the trial of Erich Honecker, 80, the former East German leader, although doctors say he will die within six months. (AP)

Dietrich protest

Berlin: The granite tombstone of Marlene Dietrich was pushed over by vandals here. Many Germans have not forgiven her for singing for US soldiers in the war. (AFP)

MP wounded

Athens: An MP was wounded in what was seen as an attempt to intimidate the ruling New Democracy party over the vote on next year's budget.

Russia to give ailing economy £1bn boost

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA is planning to pump 1.000 billion roubles (£1.53 Illion) into the economy this nonth and may introduce its wn currency in a substantial hift in monetary policy, a enior Central Bank official

aid yesterday. Valerian Kulikov, the bank's eputy chairman, told Izvestz: "Russia is ready to shift to a ational currency, something hat will happen any day ow." The announcement is a ear change of direction from ne tight monetary controls spoused by Yegor Gaidar, the

BRITAIN'S presidency of the

EC has "cleared the decks" for

he Community to concentrate

on a real agenda for the

future, the foreign secretary

said last night.
After chairing his last coun-

il of EC foreign ministers

before Britain hands over the

retating chairmanship to

Denmark on New Year's day, Douglas Hurd said that earli-

e this year he had worried

nat EC governments would pend 1993 "scratching

way all over again at the

Maastricht treaty. The EC had

rassed through abnormal

reached agreement on its in-ternal workings and would be

Mr Hurd said that the EC

could concentrate on helping

the countries of eastern

Europe, negotiating with four

states hoping to enter the EC in 1995, and building a

relationship with Bill Chinton, the US president-elect. He acknowledged that there was one piece of unfinished busi-

ness: the General Agreement

on Tariffs and Trade talks,

which continued yesterday in Geneva. He attacked, without

able to look outward again.

radical reformer ousted last week and replaced by Viktor Chernomyrdin as prime minister. It will worry Western investors and advisers who

fear the country risks
hyperinflation.
Mr Kulikov, who like many
Central Bank officials has
been a critic of the reform
programme, said: "We will

change Central Bank policy in accordance with government line as declared by the new premier." There was no word from Mr Chemomyrdin on the plans for a new currency and Mr Kulikov's statement

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

the EC's position.

Hurd says EC can now look outward naming France, the campaign, spearheaded by Ro-land Dumas, the French Chemomyrdin intends to tackle this, especially as the 1,000 billion rouble boost to foreign minister, to unravel

> are inflationary effect.
> The IMF and World Bank ☐ Funds defeat: The EC for eign ministers last night abandoned efforts to agree on funds for research into television screens being developed by Dutch and French electronics firms. Transport ministers also failed to agree on a system for licensing lorries operating across EC borders.

Dumas: attacked over position on Gatt

Clinton economics that its introduction was imminent has been greeted with CAN BRITAIN LEARN THE LESSONS? test the political waters. However, an increase in state credits and investments to enterprises seems likely. Mr Chemomyrdin has spoken of the need to protect Russian industry from the free market

and does not share Mr Gaidar's faith in rapid reform. The Central Bank appears to a see a new lease of influence under Mr Chernomyrdin. It chafed under the strict guidelines laid down by the International Monetary Fund and wants a return to

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Will Hutton of

The Guardian.

Bill Morris,

General Secretary, TGWU

and Jon Snow,

Channel 4 News.

more autonomous decisionmaking on the economy.

The introduction of a Russia-only currency is intended largely as a psychological fillip after a year of high inflation. a commitment to stabilising the currency. There is still no indication about how Mr

industry will have an immedi-

have been counselling Russia to keep tight fiscal controls and pursue an anti-inflationary path. But the effects on Russian industry, which is heavily dependent on subsidies, have been devastating. with a 20 per cent slump in output this year. The country's industrialists, to whom Mr Chernomyrdin, a former Central Committee industry department official, is sympathetic, have been urging the government to increase credits to state enterprises for some time. The Gaidar team resisted this pressure. Mr Chernomyrdin seems more inclined to slow the pace of reform and bail out industry - which will not please Western investors. His new cabinet, due to be announced today, is likely to be split between the adherents of shock-therapy and "go-

Russia in slow lane, page 19

Madrid's cultural capital

slow" factions.

THE SPEAKERS Stan Greenberg

Ex-Yale Professor and Clinton pollster. Academic and strategist, discovered and defined the notion of "Reagan Democrats".

Robert Kuttner

Clinton economic policy adviser. Contributing editor of The New Republic and author of "The End of Laissez-Faire". Columnist for Business Week and co-founder of "The American Prospect" with Robert Reich.

Stephanie Solien

Political Director on the Clinton campaign and chair of the National Woman's Political Caucus.

Bob Boorstin

Deputy Communications Director to George Stephanopoulos on the Clinton campaign. He is a key member of the President-Elect Clinton's Communications team.

Rosa DeLauro

Senior Congresswoman in the House of Representatives.

Roger Wilkins

Former Assistant Secretary in the Justice Department in the Kennedy/Johnston Administration. Professor of Social Policy at George Mason University and Chairman of the Pulitzer Prize Jury.

Frank Greer

Clinton's media consultant and leading Democratic media adviser.

Derek Shearer

Senior economic policy adviser to President-Elect Clinton on Labour economics and Labour policy. Professor of Public Policy and Director of the International & Public Affairs Centre at Occidental College, Los Angelos.

Elaine Kamarck

Economist and Senior Fellow of the Progressive Policy Institute. the influential Democratic policy

Ruth Goldway

Adviser to President-Elect Clinton on women and economic issues. Former Mayor of the city of Santa Monica, California where she introduced a number of progressive municipal policies.

Professor Stephen Cohen

Clinton economic policy adviser. Professor at the University of California at Berkeley and codirector of the Berkeley Roundtable on the International Economy (BRIE) with Professor Laura Tyson.

Owen Bieber

President of the United Auto Workers Union, one of the largest trade unions in the USA and the leading manufacturing union.

Spaniards bet on a winner

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID each for the Red Cross and

The draw takes place L todayin Madrid for El Gordo (The Fat One), the world's largest and oldest state lottery, paying out more than £800 million in prizes. While the British government is considering a similar scheme, the Spanish lottery organisers are suspicious of a proposal that the proven money-spinner be handed on a plate to private

"In Spain the lotteries are run by a government department and on all national lotteries such as El Gordo we take only 5 per cent for administration costs, whereas the British government would give 15 per cent to the commercial organisers," a spokeswoman for the Loteria Nacional said. "This means there will be less money for prizes, the Treasury and worthy causes." in Britain, the Treasury plans to offer a weekly jackpot of £1 million with

the income from ticket sales split 50 per cent for prizes, 20 per cent to the Treasury, 15 per cent to the lottery operator and 15 per cent to charities and culture. But the Spanish lottery organisers, who have been in business since 1811 when the lottery was launched to raise funds during the Napoleonic wars, have found the public have to be offered a better deal without any sug-

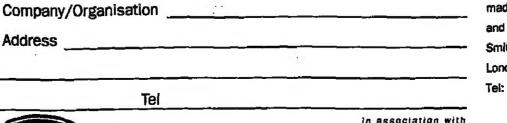
gestion of chicanery.

In Spain, prizes account for 70 per cent of ticket sales, which soared after 1941 when the chances of winning back stake money were increased. Five per cent goes on running costs and 25 per cent to the Treasury or specific causes. Last year, £1,007 million was raised for good causes from the various state lotteries and pools schemes.

programme, as well as £5 million for cancer research. Contributions of about £8 million each went to the Expo world fair, the Olympic Games and the fifth centenary celebrations of the discovery of America. Spanish sporting organisations received £39 million from football pools and horse racing systems also run by the lotteries' office. Blind people in Spain benefit from their own organisation. Once, that employs 30,000 people and last year sold £1,500 million of tickets.

Far from British worries about encouraging gam-bling the Spanish government is happy to reap the benefits from having the biggest nation of inveterate gamblers after the Philippines. Last year, the interior ministry calculated, Spaniards wagered £11,363 mil-This year the national lotlion, that is £287 per capita. tery has raised £8 million

Transport and General Workers Union



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China, Ling

Serbian vote gives lead to Milosevic and boosts far right

■ The opposition and international observers are alleging electoral fraud. Minorities fear rule by the Socialists and extreme nationalists

FROM TIM JUDAH AND DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

SERBIA moved further into international isolation yesterday as Slobodan Milosevic coasted to victory in the presidential race as the results of Sunday's elections began to come in. But early results showed a sharp fall in support for his Socialist party, with a marked swing to the right. The greatest victor was the extreme nationalist Serbian

Radical party which is allied to the Socialists. The Radical party is led by Vojislav Seselj, the American Secretary of State, Lawrence Eagleburger, as a possible war criminal. Mr Sesel's party militia has been identified in reports by the State Department and human rights groups as being behind e murder of some 3,000 Muslims in Brcko, northern Bosnia, last spring

As the extent of the crushing defeat for the opposition became clear, Milan Panic, the Yugoslav prime minister and main challenger to Mr Milosevic, called for the elections to be annulled and for a new poll to be held within 90 days. An aide to Mr Panic said that the demand was being made because of "fraud and cheating".



Milosevic: confident of election victory

On the basis of partial results, the Serbian election commission said that Mr Milosevic's share of the vote was 53.59 per cent, with 36.21 percent for Mr Panic. A Socialist party spokesman ahead of Panic and that he will win in the first round." He rejected opposition charges of fraud and said: "We can also talk of irregularities because of the historically unprecedented pressure from the world's mighty who have been pointing at those that they want the

Rome says Belgrade using Hitler tactics

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALY has staked a claim to be the main Western protector of the Albanian community in the Kosovo province of the rump Yugoslavia, and President Scaliaro, in a rare outburst, has accused Belgrade of using "half-Hitlerian, half-Stalinist" methods in Bosnia.

Signor Scalfaro received a tumultuous welcome in Tirana, the Albanian capital, at the weekend during what President Berisha noted was the first official visit by a foreign head of state since the end of Enver Hoxha's dictatorship. The normally tacitum Signor as an essential point of stability in the Balkan area that has seen so much blood spilt. The Serbs want to impose their power where they have no

right with inhumane systems. In Kossova — and I want to pronounce it as you do - a strong prevention effort is needed now so as not to arrive too late. We must ensure that Kossova has ample and true autonomy, and the fact that 90 per cent of the population

"Serbia is employing meth-ods that are half-Hitlerian and half-Stalinist. These are intolcommunity." Signor Scalfaro ed Tirana's request for United Nations or Nato troops to enter Kosovo as a protective force. "Italy stands solid with its friend Albania and is pressing for strong, serious

The criticism of Serbia was welcome in Tirana on the eve of the polls in the rump Yugoslavia. But diplomatic sources said it was unclear how far Italy would go to protect its former colony in the event of the conflict spreading to Kosovo.

ence on Security and Cooperation in Europe said that their preliminary report had found the poll "seriously flawed". An official of the conference, Jack Zetkulic, said: "Given the very close nature of the election results thus far, any amount of registration problems - between 5 per cent and 10 per cent might determine the outcome." Observers have criti-cised the use of television by Mr Milosevic in the

campaign.
However, observers said that the alleged fraud did not necessarily mean that the polis should be declared null and void. Vasile Popovic, an opposition deputy from Romania, when asked whether there should be new elections, replied "of course not". Everwidening figures between the opposition and the Socialists and Radicals during the day indicated that the opposition was heading for a genuinely

severe defeat.

According to figures released by the Depos opposition coalition, it was only leading in Belgrade. In some parts of Serbia it had been hind the Radicals. Between them, the Socialists and the Radicals looked set to pick up half the votes for the Serbian and Yugoslav parliaments with a quarter for Depos.

A Depos official said that a coelition of Socialists and Radicals would be "a catastro-

phe. It would be a government that has no credibility in the West and the international community. We would drift further away from Europe and the world ... it would be ever more a police government".

Mr Seselj, a former university law teacher from Sarajevo, is a militant believer in Greater Serbia and has called for the deportation of non-Serbs from Serbia. The triumph of the Socialists and Radicals will send shivers down the spines of the members of Serbia's minorities. Only 65 per cent of Serbia's population are ethnic Serbs. The largest minority are the ethnic Albanians of Serbia's southern province of ians in Vojvodina in the north. Thousands of Hungarians

have already left Serbia. In Kosovo, ethnic Albanian leaders told their people to boycott the poll with the clear hope that Mr Milosevic would be re-elected. They hope that Serbia will collapse under international pressure and that, in the ensuing chaos, they will be able to snatch independence for Kosovo. However, Serb nationalists may now press for the "ethnic cleansing" of the province, regarded by Serbs as the cradle of their civilisation.

One man said yesterday that he had voted for Mr Seseij because he hoped that President Yeltsin would soon be overthrown, "and so if we hold on long enough the Russians



International monitors find election flaws

The Serbian president used the state apparatus to ensure there was no level playing field in the elections, explains Michael Meadowcroft, who is part of the international monitoring team



Working out of the Belgrade Hyatt Hotel is hardly conducive to a deep understanding of the fatal consequences of the break-up of Yugoslavia or the effect of UN sanctions on Serbia. A two-hour drive in any direction from Belgrade brings a very different perception. One hundred or so international

observers did just that, covering every region of Serbia and Montenegro and visiting one in ten of the country's 10,000 polling stations. Their reports are remarkably consistent. One per cent of electors were omitted from the electoral register.

That was particularly the case among young people, who are said to support the opposition candidate.

In a country where traditional family and community pressures are still effective, the lack of facilities for voting in secret in many polling stations was a serious breach of electoral law and practise. Observers reported seeing families voting to-gether, then the husband placing all the ballots into the box.

With the burgeoning of elections over the past four years, international election monitoring has become a thorough art. Observers know that they must monitor the entire process, rather than just polling day. Problems are most likely to be visible in the latter stages of the campaign and in the counting and declaration of votes.

Such attention has not been possible in Serbia. The problem of getting here, plus prolonged at-tempts to stop Mr Panic from running for the Serbian presidency, inhibited the early appointment of observers. Now with turkey and plum pudding beckoning, there will be few observers left after tomorrow This has been far from a normal

election. The war conditions in Bosnia and the imminent possibility of escalation invests the result with serious consequences. Slobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, has been playing for high stakes and his Socialist party's control of the state apparatus has undermined any possibility of a level playing field.

Those who have been monitoring media coverage over recent weeks have consistently reported a blatant and callous bias by the state-owned Radio Television Serbia. An hour and a half of Mr Milosevic inter-spersed with eight minutes of Mr Panic has not been uncommon. An independent election supervision committee has issued seven increas-ingly outspoken criticisms of the broadcast output.

The commission said that the 1 station's bias "can discredit the very legitimacy and legality of the election in the eyes of the domestic and international democratic public". Such opinions in any normal situation would lead to legal action. But the breakdown of Yugoslavia has left federal authorities no power to enforce its own electoral laws.

These elections must be considered flawed. It is not easy to quantify the electoral impact on opposition candidates, but I judge it to have been significant. If Mr Panic does demand a fresh election, he would certainly have much sympathy.

Michael Meadowcroft is a former Liberal MP and chairman of the

Fair showing by Panic will help the West

Milan Panic's share of the vote in the Serbian presidential election suggests that the opposition to the regime of Slobodan Milosevic has closed ranks behind him, Roger Boyes writes



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S lobodan Milosevic, the Serbian president, seemed last night to be heading for re-election as early returns gave him a large and probably decisive lead over his challenger, Milan Panic.
The result, if it is confirmed, is a

blow to the West. The resurgence of debate about the use of force in Bosnia was at least partly fuelled by the wish to sway Serbian voters away from Mr Milosevic. Even the modest proposal to enforce a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia has had some impact on Serbs in Belgrade. It would take only a three-minute diversion from its flight path for an American war plane to move out of Bosnian air space and bomb the

Serbian capital.
This head of steam apparently was not enough to oust Mr Milosevic. There are some doubts about the fairness of the poll. Thousands of names were dropped from the electoral register and if the foreign observers produce a sufficiently damning report. Mr Panic will be able to challenge the result.

On the basis of 10 per cent of counted votes, Mr Milosevic yesterday had 53 per cent to Mr Panic's 36 per cent. Mr Milosevic's control of state television, his printing of money to raise industrial wages and welfare payments, the strong influence of his Socialist party machine in the countryside and his command of the police apparatus all contributed to the president's lead.

Given the obstacles, Mr Panic, who has the nominal job of prime minister of Yugoslavia, has made a creditable showing. His share suggests that the opposition to the Milosevic regime has closed ranks

behind Mr Panic. One conclusion is that every Serb who voted for Mi Panic is against continuing the war. Mr Milosevic is a power politician, skilled at manipulating elites and institutions. He is also sensitive to rumbling from the public, and the public has a many before here. rumbling has never before been so loud. There is thus substantial popular pressure on him to settle the war in Bosnia on the best possible terms for Serbia, and soon. That means either agreeing to the United National Than to decentralise Bosnis into ten autonomous cantons, or agreeing to carve up the republic with Croatia. The first option means that the West can at least pretend to have rescued the integrity of Bosnia.

behind Mr Panic. One conclusion is

The second, which would leave a small Muslim state sandwiched between an enlarged Serbia and Croatia, is more to Mr Milosevic's he victory of Mr Milosevic may

I not be very palatable to the West, but it is not necessarily disastrous. A heavily qualified vid tory for Mr Milosevic may make for more malleable crisis management than a water-thin majority for Mr Panic. Mr Milosevic would surely have done his best to undermine Mr Panic had the Californian businessman become president. Since Kosovo Serbs swear personal loyalty to Mr Milosevic, it would have been an easy matter to stir up the very crisis there that the West so fears.

Mr Panic has performed, and will continue to perform, a useful task in defining the limits of Mr Milosevic's power. He has made it a little more possible for the West to box its way through the Balkan crisis.

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Major presses for extended deadline to clear the skies By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent, MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

BRITAIN is pressing for a deadline of at least 21 days before a new United Nations resolution enforcing a "no-fly" zone over Bosnia is put into

After returning from his trip to Camp David, John Major indicated that he regarded the 15-day ultimatum, favoured by Richard Cheney, the American defence secretary, as too short. Asked whether, in endorsing plans to enforce the "no-fly" zone, he had been pushed against his better judg-ment into a policy that could put British troops at risk, the prime minister replied: "I don't believe remotely that is the case."

He said: "We have reacted very cautiously on Bosnia but I think we also have to realise what is happening there. Many of the actions we have seen in Bosnia are quite unspeakable, quite intolerable, and I think we have to reflect [that] in our policy." With the UN Security Coun-

cil expected to approve enforcement of the "no-fly" zone later this week, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, warned Belgrade that if there was not a "rapid and radical change in policy", Serbia and Montenegro would face total

isolation. They did not have long to make that choice, he said, as he began talks on Bosnia with his fellow European Community foreign ministers in Brussels. The EC ministers later issued a warning that a win by Slobodan Milosevic in the presidential elections would trigger tighter sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia. There continued to be irrita-

tion over Mr Cheney's remarks that a 15-day deadline had been discussed between Mr Major and President Bush. Mr Cheney was not present during the formal part of the weekend talks about enforcing the "no-fly" zone over Bosnia, British officials said. Only five people were at the talks: the president, Brent Scowcroft, the American National Security Adviser, Mr Major, Gus O'Donnell, his press secretary, and Stephen Wall, his private secretary responsible for foreign affairs. British officials felt that

there remained a degree of incompatibility between Lon-don and Washington over the implementation of the "nofly" zone. Options for protecting the 2,400 troops involved in the Bosnian relief operation include giving them heavier



weapons, pulling them back into more secure parts of Bosnia, air cover against ground attack and sending in reinforcements. However, defence ministry

sources said that it was unclear what the political objective would be by reinforcing the troops. "If you have to reinforce them with heavier weapons and more troops, that surely has implications for the humanitarian mission," the sources said. In a radio interview, Lieutenant Colonel Bob Stewart, commander of the British battle group in Bosnia, said his troops were not part of

the war. They were there merely to help deliver aid. He said he would continue to try and arrange a ceasefire for the Christmas period.

Although Britain will support enforcement of the "no-fly" zone. RAF jets are not expected to participate. How-ever, British officials said it was likely that logistical help would be given to the Americans. One British official said: The Americans will have to play the leading part." Lord Owen, co-chairman of

the Geneva peace conference, ended a four-day trip to Bosnia in Sarajevo and an-

had been set for demilitarising the besieged city. "There will no doubt be many upsets and many difficulties," Lord Owen admitted, standing next to Radovan Karadzic, the leader of the Bosnian Serbs.

Lord Owen is putting his faith in four committees formed to focus on specific problems which make life in Sarajevo a daily test of courage and patience for the 380,000 people trapped there. Each committee will include representatives from the Muslim, Serb and Croat communities and UN personnel.

As Lord Owen held talks with Dr Karadzic and General Ratko Mladic, commander of the Bosnian Serb forces outside Sarajevo, an RAF Hercules transport aircraft flew into the capital. It was the first aid flight into the Bosnian capital since the air bridge was sus-pended on December 1.

In Skopje, Macedonia, Douglas Hogg, minister of state at the Foreign Office, said the former Yugoslav republic would have a better chance of gaining broad international recognition after the

The UN Security Council voted this month to send about 700 peacekeepers to Macedonia in an attempt to prevent the violence spreading into the republic. The peacekeepers

borders in case violence erupts between minority Serbs and the restive ethnic Albanian majority in Serbia's southern Kosovo province, which also borders Macedonia. Dipomats and many Yugoslavs far that violence in Kosovo world spark conflict with Albatia and spread to Macedona. which is also home to a

sizeable Albanian minority Mr Hogg said that he say no legal obstacles to accepting Macedonia into the interntional community. Diploms fear that if Yugoslavia's wa fare spreads south to Maced nia it could spark a broad Balkan war. Mr Hogg insis ed that Greece had no power to block or veto Macedonia membership in the Unite Nations.

Unlike Slovenia, Croati and Bosnia, Macedonia lef the old Yugoslav federation without bloodshed. But its southern neighbour. Greece. member of the Community has blocked EC recognition and Macedonia has remained in virtual diplomatic and economic isolation.

Greece is demanding that Macedonia change its name. which Athens claims was usurped from Alexander the Great's ancient Greek kingdom and implies territorial claims on Greece's northern province of the same name.

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Muslims' winter exile destroys Israeli dreams of peace



ISRAEL'S normally boister-ous parliament is not easily cowed. But when Yitzhak Rabin rose to make his maiden speech as the newly elected prime minister five months ago, his Knesset colleagues were silenced for what was

seen as a turning point in the country's 43-year history.

After decades of war and instability in the Middle East. Mr Rabin, Israei's most celebrated soldier and respected politician, told his countrymen that there were now all the factors needed for a peace agreement that would resolve the Palestinian problem and eliminate the threat to Israel's existence from its Arab neigh-bours. For many Israelis the speech evoked a peaceful coexistence with the Arabs of which they had only dreamt.

ary souk.

Less than six months after his return to power with public hopes high, Yitzhak Rabin's achievements lie in tatters, Richard Beeston writes



Mr Rabin, billed as a Middle ing a deal with the Arabs, while also safeguarding the Eastern Gorbachev or de Klerk, would lead the country country's security needs into a new era where one day through the inevitably difficult Israelis would be able to tour negotiations ahead. in safety the Nabataean ruins Even some Arabs, at first of Petra in Jordan and even

suspicious of Mr Rabin, 70, because of his reputation for toughness, were willing to give browse in Damascus's legend-As they had shown by their him the benefit of the doubt. overwhelming electoral sup-port for the Labour party. Although he was remembered in the occupied West Bank Israelis saw the gravel-voiced hero of the Six-Day war as the and Gaza Strip as the defence minister who at the outbreak of the intifada five years ago only man capable of delivertold his troops to crush the uprising by breaking the bones of the young demonstrators, this time he appeared to approach the Arabs with a caution bordering on

While predicting that he would achieve an initial agreement within 12 months at the peace talks in Washington, Mr Rabin also displayed a new flexibility in practice. To the dismay of right-wing op-position parties, he ordered hundreds of Palestinian polit-ical prisoners to be released early, and defused a potentially explosive confrontation between the army and Pales-tinian students in Nablus through compromise. A hunger strike by hundreds of Arab prisoners ended peacefully when the Israeli authorities

met their demands and im-proved conditions.

Israeli negotiators offered for the first time to trade land for peace with Syria in the captured Golan Heights and offered the Palestinians the opportunity to run much of their own daily affairs. Only this month his left-wing coalition presided over the first reading of a bill to lift the ban on contacts with the long outlawed Palestine Liberation Organisation.

All Mr Rabin's hard-won achievements lie in tatters today, however, with his gov-ernment's decision to expel more than 400 Islamic militants from the occupied territories as a form of collective punishment against the Islamic fundamentalist group Hamas for the kidnapping and killing of an Israeli para-military policeman.

Mr Rabin's decision was prompted by a public outcry over a spate of killings of Israeli soldiers by Hamas gunmen and by his own conviction as a former officer that the only way to protect the men under his command was to stamp out enemy opposition. However, the price in terms of his credibility as a statesman and his ability to deal with delicate matters of

diplomacy will be heavy. The present impasse between israeli and Lebanese troops over the fate of the deportees has played straight into the hands of his adversaries who have all along been trying to torpedo the Middle East peace talks. Not only have future negotiations besuspended indefinitely by the Arab side, but the PLO also has withdrawn its support for the dialogue and begun talks with Hamas, the largest of the

"rejectionist" groups.

Mr Rabin's defiance of world opinion, which condreams of his people.

Rabin pledges no mercy as **Palestinians** try to return

FROM BEN LYNFIELD IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, said yesterday that his government's deporta-tion of 415 Muslim funda-mentalists was irreversible, after Israeli-backed troops in Lebanon opened fire to rebuff an effort by them to return. Our position is fixed. We

ing by Pani

The West

will not let them return," Mr Rabin told the Knesset. However. Shimon Peres, the for-eign minister, did not throw his weight behind the expul-sions. I cannot change the past. I do not want to relate to this matter. I was outside the country when the decision was taken," Mr Peres said. He was on an official visit to Japan last week when the Israeli cabinet

decided on the move. Mr Rabin's speech came as judges from the Israeli supreme court deliberated for a second day over a petition by Avigdor Feldman, lawyer for the deportees, to order their return. Mr Feldman argued they had been "dumped in no man's land" rather than transferred to a sovereign state, and Israel remained legally re-sponsible for their well-being.

The conditions in the camp of those who were removed are is cold there. But I must admit I have no mercy in my heart for them." The prime minister accused Lebanese authorities of prompting the deportees to march towards Israel's "security zone" border strip "to prove to the world and the court in Israel that these men

of terror are defenceless". . Mr Rabin said that Israel's expulsion of the activists from the Hamas Islamic Resistance Movement and the Islamic Jihad organisation might one day be viewed by the world as a pioneering strike against dark forces in much the same

Uri Dromi, a government spokesman, challenged re-ports from Lebanon that the

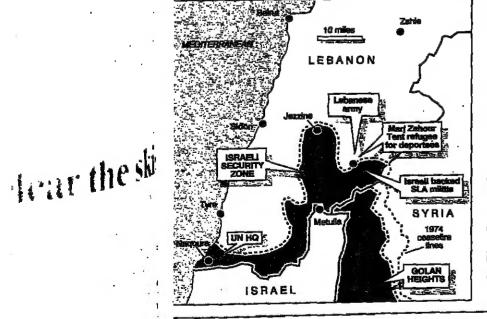
gas was used.

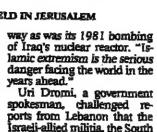
Major General Danny
Yatom, West Bank command-

Yunis refugee camp, where there have been fierce clashes officials said they were checking the circumstances of the death, the second of a child in 48 hours in the Khan Yunis

While support within Israel for the deportations was still broad, Mr Rabin was also facing increasing criticism. The Peace Now movement announced that it was opening a public campaign to oppose the expulsions and it called for immediate recognition of the PLO.

No man's land firing, page 1





Israeli-allied militia, the South Lebanon Army, had used heavy machineguns and mortar bombs to turn back the marchers. He said only tear-

er, said earlier that the 415 deportees would be allowed back to the territories after two-year "removal" only if they "did not engage in terror activities" while away.
The right-wing Likud oppo-

sition party has tabled a noconfidence motion against the government's security "failures". Its leaders cautioned against following-up the expulsions with concessions to the Palestine Liberation

In the Gaza Strip, troops shot dead a ten-year-old, Ayman Amar, in the Khan

Leading article, page 13



Outside story: Bassem Siouri, 17, the youngest of the 415 deportees, telling yesterday of his freezing five-day ordeal at Marj az-Zahour

General expected de Klerk purge

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

violence in South Africa. None

has been officially named, but

General Thirion said yester-

day he had been told he had

been put on compulsory early

pension and must leave his

He declared: "I am a profes-

sional soldier and have never

disobeyed orders or acted be-

yond my orders or mandate. I

have a lot of faith in President

de Klerk. I believe he made

the best decision with the facts

at his disposal, but I do not

know which facts they were."

Mr de Klerk said at the

weekend there was evidence

that the officers being dis-

missed had links with right-

wing extra-governmental org-anisations which aimed to

"prevent us proceeding with

our constitutional goals". Al-

though he emphasised that

the investigations so far had

not proved the existence of a

"third force", backed by the

military and bent on ruining

negotiations, newspapers, in-

had been forced to admit.

office at once.

A SOUTH African major general, who was among the army officers dismissed by President de Klerk at the weekend, said yesterday he had realised that there would be no place for him in a

Major General Chris Thirion, aged 53, the deputy chief of staff, military intelligence. said: "I have known for a long time that my time was up, that there would not be a place for me in a new dispensation. I do not think I can be trusted by potentital participants in a

new government." He said he would leave the South African Defence Force "by the front door. My signature appears on most documents on internal covert activities because these were delegated to me. I am satisfied that my actions were within our mandate and that they were confined to the collection of information,"

The South African military and security establishment was still stunned yesterday after Mr de Klerk's announcement that 23 defence force officers, including two generals and four brigadiers, were ordered to be compulsory retired or suspended from duty. His decision resulted from a continuing investigation into covert military activities aimed particularly at the African National Congress.

Mr de Klerk said the 23 had been exposed by Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, head of a

Delhi eases curbs on BJP commission into the causes of By Christopher Thomas

IN DELHI

THE Indian government announced yesterday a relaxation of orders controlling the activities of the Bharativa Janata Party, the pro-Hindu organisation that played a key role in the destruction of the Ayodhya mosque on Decemher 6. The move amounts to an acknowledgment that the attempted clampdown on Hindu militants has been a

political disaster. Shankarrao Chavan, the home minister, told the Rajya Sabha (upper house) of partiament that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) would again be allowed to hold political meetings. The announcement came the day after Atal Behari Vajpayee, a senior party leader, began hunger strike demanding full freedom to hold anti-government railies. He abandoned the fast yesterday in triumph. The government's climb-

chiding The Star in Johannesdown has further bolstered the burg, said this was what he BJP, which is trying to force P. V. Narasimha Rao, the prime minister, into calling a The Citizen, which has close links with the security estabgeneral election. Attempts to lishment, gave a warning: curtail BJP activities have giv-"Perhaps the purges will pre-vent any possible coup, but on en it a big propaganda advanthe other hand they may cause Congress (I) party. By adopting a softer approach, the government hopes to regain the initiative. Mr Chavan said a further right-wing backlash and threats of armed resistance. Any purge of officers is the BJP would be required to bound to have an adverse hold its meetings indoors and reaction, particularly if it is felt must not use religious slogans.

Senate poised to impeach Collor

FROM MAC MARGOLIS IN BRASILIA

THE Brazilian senate is expected to impeach Fernando Collor de Mello, the suspended president, today on the ground that he corruptly pock-

eted millions of pounds. Senhor Collor has been on trial in the senate since late september, when the chamher of deputies voted to sus-pend him. If the senate upholds the charges, Senhor Collor will become the first Brazilian president in modern history to be impeached.

He has rejected the charges that he condoned and even profited from an influencepeddling and bribery scheme commanded by Paulo Cesar Farias, his former campaign treasurer. An air of suspense was added to the affair vesterday as Senhor Farias suddenly left the country in his Lear jet.



for resignation

Mauricio Corruea, the justice minister, announced an investigation, fearing that Senhor

Farias had fled from justice. The suspended president, on half-pay and left with only a skeleton staff, has doggedly refused to stand down, although some political observers here say that he may yet resign at the last moment to preserve his political rights. If impeached. Senhor Collor would forfeit the right to run

for political office for ten years. The senate trial has only served to strengthen the damning report by congress in September, which voted overwhelmingly to suspend him from power. Senhor Collor stands accused of taking money and gifts from Senhor Farias, who has been charged with collecting at least £20 million in illegal commissions in exchange for government

To return to office, Senhor Collor must now garner at least one-third of the votes in the 81- member senate, which is even more hostile than the chamber of deputies. Analysts estimate that he may end up with only a handful of votes from lingering friends and

A survey of popular opinion published yesterday by the Brazilian Gallup polling organisation found that 87.1 per cent of respondents did not want Senhor Collor back in office while only 8 per cent said he should rule again.

demned the expulsions as contrary to international law, could cost him the generally supportive attitude adopted by the West towards his govern-

ment at a time when a new American administration is about to be sworn in. Whatever its immediate outcome, the crisis is bound to raise alarming questions about Mr Rabin's long-term ability to carry out his promises, live up to his role as the region's peacemaker and fulfil the

NEWS IN BRIDE

US warns China on **Hong Kong** contracts

Hong Kong: America called on China yesterday to respect contracts in Hong Kong after taking over the British colony in 1997, adopting one of its clearest stands to date on one of the issues poisoning Sino-British relations.

Barbara Franklin, the US commerce secretary, in Hong Kong after a visit to China told the American Chamber of Commerce that since US firms had been awarded contracts to build a new airport. Washington had interests in the colony

it must monitor. "Let me state clearly, if China is to truly shape a brighter future for all Chinese people, and if China is to indeed become a fully participating member of the world economic community, then the leaders of China must realise that contracts must be respected," she said.

Ms Franklin was referring to China's comment on November 30 that, after taking over Hong Kong in 1997, it would not respect contracts it had not vetted previously. The statement caused the stock market to fall. (AFP)

Islands rocked

. Jakarta: An earthouske hit eastern Indonesia, the second in ten days, but initial reports said that there were no casual ties. Australian seismologists measured the tremor, which shook buildings in Darwin, at 7.3 on the Richter scale, but the quake, centred near Banda, in the Molucca Islands, appeared to be too far out to sea and too deep to cause much damage. (Reuter)

Cabinet to go

Taipei: Hau Pei-tsun, the prime minister of Taiwan. and his cabinet will resign after the ruling Nationalists' poor performance in parliamentary elections, said Shih Chi-yang, the deputy prime minister. The date had not yet been fixed. (Reuter)

Turkey accused

Strasbourg: The Council of Europe's committee for the prevention of torture issued a report accusing the Turkish police and security forces of widespread torture and political killings. The committee urged Ankara to stop the abuses. (Reuter)

Engineers flee

Gauhati: Twenty-one French oil experts have fled the northeastern state of Assam since December 7 after a "quit India" notice from separatist rebels, a government official said. Only two engineers remain on the exploration project (AP)

£170m fine

Tehran: A court has fined several people £170 million for trying to smuggle a hoard of antiques and other precious objects, some stolen from museums, out of Iran. One of the defendants was jailed for more than ten years. (Reuter)

Driven out

Phnom Penh: Light shelling continued over the weekend in western Cambodia, where artillery exchanges between Khmer Rouge guerrillas and government troops have driven 10,000 people from their homes. (AFP)

Locust plague

Ingeniero Jacobacci: Argentine ranchers and local governments have asked Buenos Aires for help in containing a 12-mile-wide plague of locusts that is eating its way across the south of the country, devouring vegetation needed to feed sheep, the area's economic

Americans watch Mogadishu warlords roll their rockets out of town

that the ANC will benefit."

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

SOMALIA'S two main warring factions began to move weapons out of Mogadishu vesterday, clearing the way for an end to two years of feudal violence that has left can official said.

as part of a seven-point peace plan two days after the multinational troops landed on December 9, but that the implementation was sealed in recent days. The official, who asked not to be named, said that the evacuation covered only the feared

cleared out of the Somali capital, the foreign forces face a far tougher task in the regions

"technicals", the civilian vehicles mounted with machmeguns and rocket launchers that have devastated the city. American officials said Muhammad Farah Aidid had moved his technicals out of the southern part of the city yesterday and that his chief rival, Ali Mahdi Muhammad, would move his from the north today. "It's a Somali operation, aimed at bringing Mogadishu back to what it was before the civil war," one American official said. He said freelance bandits

General Aidid or Mr Ali Mahdi would be told via radio and newspaper announcements to get their technicals out of town fast. American-led coalition forces would play no direct role in the operation. But they had been told of the routes and times when the militia vehi-

Earlier yesterday, French

troops wounded at least three nen when they came under attack in southern Somalia, a French military spokesman said. He said troops opened fire when ten guntuen in a technical battle wagon charged towards their observation post near the inland famine town of Baidoa under cover of darkness. "It was a concerted attack," Colonel Jean-Paul Perruche said. He addeed that a French sniper had stopped the vehicle in its tracks.

The three Somalis, found with Kalashnikovs by French paratroops, were taken to hospital, one with severe stomach wounds. No French soldiers were hurt and the other gunmen fled.

Relief agencies had piled

pressure on the American military to extend their security umbrella to north Mogadishu. "It is teeming with AK47s and teeming with technicals," said Mark Thomas, for the UN Children's Fund. "Any military presence at all would help as long as it is a show of force."

American troops, who secirced Mogadishu port and airport at the start of Operation Restore Hope, have escorted food convoys across the bombed-out "green line" that divides the capital but do not operate patrols in the north. Relief agencies have withdrawn virtually all their foreign staff from the enclave

Mr Thomas reported that the Irish aid agency, Goal. had said it was considering suspending operations in the north. "Unicef supports what Goal said about insecurity. We cannot send more supervisory staff in until the situation improves," he said. American marines and

their coalition allies have established security bridgeheads for the relief operation in Baidoa. At a military airfield in Bali Dogle on Sunday, they swept ashore to do the same in the southern port of Kismayu. American commanders say, however. that their mission is not to disarm a country awash with weapons after two years of clan killing and gun rule. General Joseph Hoar, the overall commander, said last week that security would

ved. The attack on the French observation post, northwest of Baidoa airfield, occurred a day after American and French troops seized six battlewagons and disarmed 45 heavily-armed gummen out-side Baidwa, 150 miles west of Mogadishu.

A marine patrol in Mogadishu also shot and hit a gunman in a technical who trained a machinegun on them near the green line on Sunday. It was not clear if the man was killed.

"We're not in the investigation business," said Commander Jim Kudla, of the US Navy and an American spokesman. "The squad perceived a direct threat to them.

the capital in ruins, an Ameri-The State Department officer said in the Somali capital that the evacuation was within the framework of an accord signed by both sides

■ While the feared 'technicals' are being

or factions not aligned with

des would move to locations just outside the city. "The one thing we want to avoid is a confrontation," the American official said.

because of the insecurity.

God gets the hard sell

Alice Thomson

reports on the new

'God slot', the

religious television

advertisement

ust imagine for a moment that it is Saturday, January 2. The last of the mince pies have been scraped off the carpet and the streamers have been disentangled from the lightbulbs. You settle down to watch a little

undernanding television, when your attention is caught by a new advertisement showing 15 seconds of the hungry, homeless and abused, accompanied by the rising crescendo of "Why, why, WHY?".

Perplexed, you turn to Chan-nel 4. and sandwiched between the ads for coffee and cars, come across waterfalls, goats, flowers and mountains with the caption "Made By God". For Christianity is going for the hard sell, and these are just two of the pilot television advertisements being prepared.

Television advertisements for God, like those for strong drink,

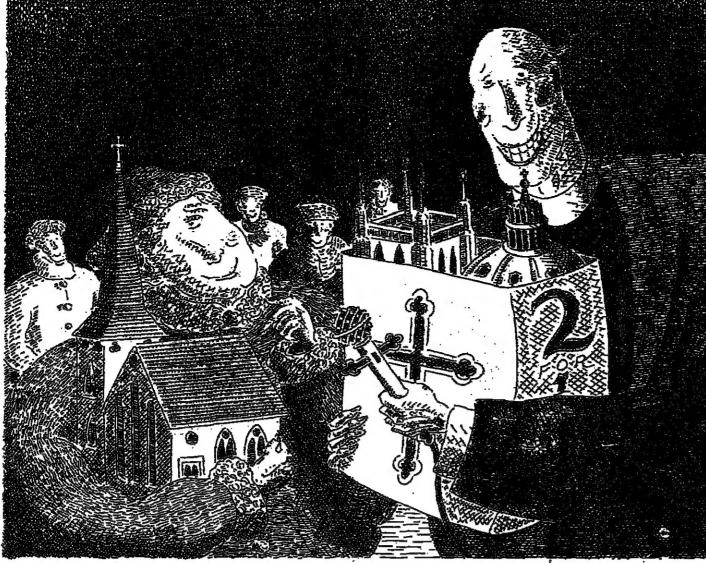
'We're not allowed to say that our God washes whiter than another'

betting shops, unwrapped con-doms and pregnancy-testing clinics used to be banned from the airwaves. Previous Broadcasting Acts included religious advertising because television was considered too persuasive and choice of religion was considered a private affair. But attitudes are changing. From the beginning of next year, religious groups will be allowed to buy advertising on ITV and Channel 4, under a new code of advertsing published by the Independent Television Commission (ITC).

The Lichfield diocese (which covers 450 parishes across the Midlands) has made the first, and so far only Church of England move to take advantage of the new ruling. In January it will be running a campaign on Central TV to "put God back on the agenda". In charge of operations is the Rev Robert Ellis, the diocesan communications officer. "For the church to ignore religious TV advertising is like Caxton ignoring printing and St Paul ignoring the

vell-versed in media terminology. The campaign has three aims. "Firstly, we wanted to keep the rumour of God alive and keep God

boat." says Mr Ellis, who is already



wanted to change our image as middle-aged, middle class, pompous individuals. Thirdly, we are saying that should people join up they will receive a warm welcome," he says. This Christmas every church worth their salt will have huge billboards outside their premises. This is just an extension."

Anglican congregations in Brit-ain have slumped to 1.1 million and are still falling. But many pillars of the church have raised objections to broadcast advertising. Even posters such as "You're invited to a Bread and Wine party with Jesus" cause some to squirm. The Lichfield diocese made the

decision to advertise in July and was soon inundated with phone calls from advertising companies. Lichfield chose Cogent, an agency that had already done a successful poster campaign for the diocese. We specifically asked them not to chose eager-beaver Christians to work on the campaign because they might bring their own agenda, Mr Ellis says. The uncommitted, it was thought, might have a more flexible and imaginative approach.

Advertising God is not an easy task. The new code of Religious Advertising runs to more than

regulations. Advertising must not be used to expound religious doctrine or directly exhort viewers to change their religious behaviour. Claims that a particular religion is the only or true faith are also unacceptable, as are advertisements that play on fear, or which target the under-18s.

he Lichfield campaign has run into a few problems. Images of poverty and despair with the Why, Why, Why voice-over did not seem to contravene any regulations, but the ITC has recently told them that the flashing pictures could trigger fits in epileptics. So the new year

campaign will be a surprise. Lichfield diocese, Mr Ellis says, is wary of being accused of selling the coffee jar and not the coffee. "We are not trying to put burns on seats. we are trying to give God to anyone who wants him. It's all about what the advertising people might call product awareness. Religious advertising will be more like political advertising rather than like selling

He is worried about competition from "extreme right-wing fundamental sects", but he does not think

The code makes it impossible for people to solicit for money and that was what we were worried about,"

But doesn't religious advertising serve Manumon better than God? At present, a series of ten, 20-second advertisements on Central West costs £7,770. "If it's for God, it's got to be the best, but I do see. the need not to squander vast amounts of money when we should be thinking about Somalia. How much we need to spend is all part of this experiment."

The Lichfield diocese hopes that more of the Church of England's 44 dioceses and other Christian denominations could be persuaded to join together for a nationwide television campaign next Easter, paid for in part by commercial sponsorship. It has already thought up a hard-sell approach, using public figures such as the murdered Archbishop Romero, Terry Waite, Desmond Tutu and Mother Teresa with the line "to them Easter's

much more than chocolate eggs". But how effective can religious advertising be? Last year, the diocese of Oxford ran a radio and poster campaign, "Give Jesus a present: wrap up your kids and take

communications officer, the Rev Richard Thomas, attendance went up by nearly 18 per cent.

But Mr Thomas has reservations about television advertising. "It is very, very expensive and transitory. I don't think it is worth the cost especially if it alienates our present members," he says. "Also it is effective in increasing brand share, not changing opinions, and we're not allowed to say our God washes any brighter than another."

The Methodist church does not agree with advertising. "The greatest danger facing the world isn't greed, vanity or ambition, but brainless mass-consumerism," says John Kenney of the division of social responsibility. "How do you advertise without appearing to be getting your snouts into the same trough as everybody else?"

Colin Semper, canon treasurer of Westminster, has been given the task of chairing the working party on the church and advertising: 'Advertising is worth it," he says. Two or three generations of children have grown up knowing nothing. Our job now must be to get the message across. But we must proceed slowly. If we campaign too hard, it might be seen as

I t is part of America's commun-ications covenant: if you have the message and the money, the airwaves are yours. Religious broadcasters in America have always enjoyed opportunities for unrestricted, unrestrained evange lism, beginning in the 1920s. There are estimated to be between 40 and 50 million evangelical Christians in America today, and millions of them flock to the electronic altar, despite the recent sins and prison sentences of airtime apostles such as Jim Bakker and Jimmy Swaggart.

· The demands made on the broadcast brethren in America are both great and varied. A oneminute advertising spot on tele-vision can sell for as much as \$3,000 a minute on a network affiliate. Programming costs are generally less expensive than advertising costs, with the higher rates granting access to larger urban populations.

For example, in the town of Santa Rosa, California, which has a population of 100,000, rates vary from \$400 to \$1,200 an hour, depending on the day and time. On average, 22 per cent of any religious programme is spent ap-pealing for money, the same amount of time spent airing commercials on non-religious

Eighty-one of America's 1,100 commercial television stations are considered full-time religious sta-tions, broadcasting religious programmes for more than 84 hours a week. And 1,156 radio stations, out of the country's 11,000, air more than 15 hours a week of religious programming. Churches can own cable stations, sponsor programmes and advertise on television and radio, provided they are not broadcasting anything obscene, indecent or fraudulent.

Yet religious broadcasting is not regulated in America. "We don't monitor shows unless we get a complaint," according to a spokesman from the Federal Communications Commission, the United States's broadcasting regulatory

Advertisements asting 15 to 30 seconds can be categorized into four different groups. There are the "tune into my show on Sun-day" type produced by the bigger angelists pitches for various

religious products; invitations to ponder spirituality in a general way; and invitations to attend specific churches.

Some evangelists tend not to solicit funds because they know the present climate of scepticism towards evangelicals would turn away many potential viewers. In-creasingly, television ministers are: selling religious products to get funds, rather than soliciting dollars. The idea is to give the viewer a premium by sending them a book or cassette, in addition to making them feel good about contributing to keep their favorite preacher in

On the more local level, pastors often appear on television to invite the viewer to think more about religion in a general sense. The message may be based in scriptum and can be interpreted loosely or get quite specific according to which religious body created the avertising spot. Few attempts an made, however, to convert people from one faith to another, and most are quite simple in these

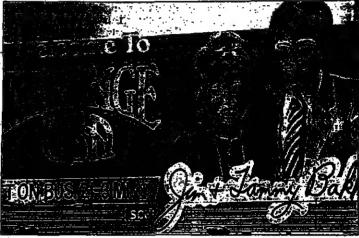
ocal ministers also tend

Listick to the sincere approach

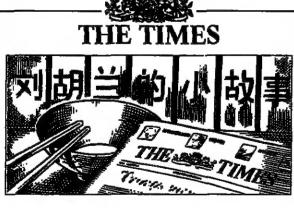
when inviting viewers to attend their church services. The results of these advertisements varies greatly according to the charisma of the particular religious leaders but can be quite effective in attracting those without a spiritual "home".
In addition to those who are on a mission to earn more money, there are also those who broadcast religion because they see it as an effective way of spreading the message. Vision Interfaith Satellite Network was started up by 22 diverse denominations in 1988 as an alternative to what many saw as the greedy prosletysing of previous

evangelical programmes. Involving a variety of faiths, from Roman Catholic and Jewish to Mennomites and the Salvation Army, VISN has a policy of "no onair solicitation of funds and no proselytising". Each denomination pays the cost of their own productions, supplying them free to the networks. VISN filled a gap in the religious market, reaching seven million households via 381 cable systems within its first year.

RENÉ RILEY-ADAMS



Grounded by a flight offer I want doesn't



OVERSEAS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Make sure they stay in touch

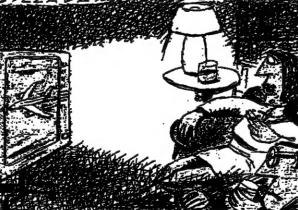


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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Don't let your free trip hopes soar too he burglars came to our out much disruption. A high when you buy electrical goods plank through the double glazing, a detour to pick up our television set and video camera and they were off through the front door. "At



but they come in varieties dis-tinguishable by their codes, and eligible models bore codes starting with KVA, KVM and KVX. We had a KVMU, so it

This entitled both of us to apply for vouchers that could be exchanged for return tickets on specified British Airways scheduled flights to 33 European destinations. Our applihis mistake and promised that cation forms were stamped with the store logo and the transaction was complete, the only slight flaw being that the shop had sold out of our TV model but would deliver when

new stock arrived. Would this affect our eligibility for the free tickets? We were told not to worry since we had paid before the closing date for purchases.

least you've got insurance,"our

encouraging detective said.
Yes, we had a full-cover

replacement policy, which per-

mitted us to do some unex-

pected Christmas shopping, taking the sting out of being robbed. There was even a

bonus, as we discovered when

we were lured into an electrical

goods store by posters shout-ing: "Buy Sony, Fly Free...

Return flights worth millions.

We bought a Sony video camera (£500) with extended warranty (£200) and asked

whether a Sony Trinitron por-table TV set with teletext facil-

ity would also qualify for the free flights offer. It would indeed, said the sales assistant.

so we completed sales forms for the TV (£300) and warran-

Available now!"

A few days later the TV arrived and we were able to send our application form. original receipts and guarantee cards three weeks before the deadline for voucher requests on December 28. Lyons had become our favoured destination for a week's holiday at the end of January.

In mid January, I received my Fly Free voucher but when none arrived for my companion I phoned the Sony Helpline to be told that the TV

eligible. Trinitron television sets, it was explained, may look identical on store shelves

was no go Lyons. Within ten minutes, we were simmering at the shop counter, only to be relieved of our dudgeon by the original sales assistant, who admitted

the store would confirm we had bought the TV with an assurance that it made us Next we phoned the store's head office to seek help. On January 22, a letter from Sony said: Your application has been reassessed and we have

pleasure in advising you that we are prepared to send you your free flight travel voucher upon you supplying confirmation of the product model

We called the Sony Helpline to ask what kind of confirmation was needed. The receipt and guarantee card, said the woman at the other end. But you already have them, we said. In that case, she said, get the shop to write a confirmation of purchase on headed notepaper. The sales assistant helped

once more and the confirm-

ation was sent that afternoon. By this stage we had aban-doned the idea of Lyons in January but began to nourish hopes of Barcelona before March 31, by when all flights

nother hazard had materialised; the new deadline for applications was January 28. Since, according to the rules of the offer, flights had to be booked by January 31 with a ticket voucher which could be sent out only after the application had been dealt with by Sony, it was not easy to see how the booking deadline could be

The Sony Helpline woman was reassuring. "I'm sure you will get your flight voucher, providing we receive the con-firmation of your purchase." Several weeks later the original receipts, guarantee cards participants. and warranty certificates were returned with neither flight

voucher nor a word of explanation. Having discovered a new solidarity through ordeal by non-existent ticket voucher, my companion and I decided to marry in June. Meanwhile, we wrote to Lord King of British Airways and his couninto thin air. terparts at Sony and the electrical goods store to say we

bargain and would not object to tickets in time for the

Nothing was ever heard from the store but Sony's customer information officer wrote to say that our applica-tion for a ticket voucher had not been received by January 28 so had again become ineligible. A call to Sony revealed that nobody could now be certain when our application had arrived.

"Are you saying that the Post Office took more than six days to get the application to you?" we asked. "Look at rule 11 on your entry form," was the reply. Rule 11 read: "Proof of posting will not be accepted s proof of receipt."

Sony signed off on an ptimistic note. "May I please offer apologies for the obvious disappointment which has been caused but hope that you will nevertheless feel able to products for the future and hopefully will still be able to take part in future promotion-

Lord King was engaged on other business but BA's customer relations department sent a thoughtful letter to say that administration of the Fly Free offer had been entirely out of their hands but that they sympathised and had written to Sony on our behalf and hoped we would have a wonderful honeymoon.

Last week BA wrote again to say: "We'd like to make you feel good. How do you feel about our service?" Well, the answer is that BA made an effort to sort out our tangled little affair and came out of it rather better than the other

But I have a suggestion. If airlines want to fill empty seats why don't they offer a free vacuum cleaner. TV set or washing machine to anyone who buys a ticket for an underused route? Then, at least the happy customer would be guaranteed a flight instead of a journey that simply disappears

RODDY FORSYTH

always get

Good news: children soon forget even if Santa fails to deliver

ow are children's Christmas lists composed? Toy manufacturers are understandably anxious to know whether their advertisements are having the desired effect, particularly since a toy that has never been advertised, the Thunderbirds' Tracy Island by Matchbox, is

this season's sell-out success. So the British Toy and Hobby Manufacturers Association (BTHA) commissioned Dr Anne Sheppard, a psychologist at Leeds University, to produce a report on Television Toy Advertising and Children which should also be of interest to parents. Her results were published

this month, just as the Nat-ional Toy Council brought out "a parent's [sic] guide" to "advertising and your child". It outlines exercises parents can do with children to help them to distinguish between reality and advertisers' hyperbole, but is sponsored by the leading toy manufacturer Hasbro. The BTHA report is based

on responses (via interview and questionnaire) from 108 children aged six to nine in the Leeds area, and 48 parents, between November 1991 and January 1992. Dr Sheppard puts the caveat that "from such a small pilot study it is hard to draw too many conclusions". It shows that while six to

seven-year-old girls cite television as their prime inspiration when it comes to asking for presents, eight to nineyear-old boys and girls and six to seven-year-old boys are more influenced by cata-logues, what they see in shops and what their friends have, and girls of eight to nine by catalogues and shops, with friends' influence coming after that of television.

The children received only about a third of the toys they requested - and two thirds of what they were given by

asked for. But - and here's the cheering news for parents hard-pressed by the recession - the children were more than content and by January had long forgotten the things they had asked for but did not get.

Children aged six to seven wanted 70 per cent of their presents to be toys, but that dwindled to about 50 per cent by age eight to nine, even with computer games counted as "toys". Without them the percentage would be embarrass-

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Take .

ingly low for the toy industry.
The survey found that children start thinking seriously about Christmas presents from September, and that for many the "Christmas list" is the result of "ongoing negotiations" with parents.

Her parent questionnaires indicated that parents intended to spend more money on sons than on daughters. "It could be because there is a greater variety of toys marketed for boys, and they are more expensive because they are much more technical. Or boys may be more demanding work on behaviour problems with pre-schoolers shows that boys are much more demanding."

r Sheppard's results should reassure par-ents that children have short memories for shortfalls on their Christmas lists, and are prepared to listen to recessionary reason. But 60 per cent of six to seven-year-old girls and boys. 44 per cent of eight to nine-year-old boys and 31 per cent of eight to nineyear-old girls seriously expect some of gifts to come from Santa. "Will they be sympathetic to his difficulties in the recession?" Dr Sheppard wonders. That could be something else to look into."

VICTORIA MCKEE

Work can be a pain in the neck. Aileen Ballantyne reports on adjustments to ease the ache for the deskbound

Getting to the seat of pain





Avoiding the stoop: petite Louise Hidalgo's unhealthy posture, left, can be corrected by using a seat wedge and a paper stand, right. She must also avoid sitting cross legged

crooge's hard-pressed clerk, Bob Cratchit, may have had to work long hours, but at able to do it at a desk and chair that was unlikely to give him backache.

in san 🙀

Some experts in the preven-tion of back pain suggest that a return to the Victorian form of working furniture - tall stools with a sloping seat and a high desk with a sloping top -might lessen the number of working days lost (67 million last year) through pain in the neck, shoulders or lower back.

According to a growing body of medical evidence, the office furniture we now use every day may well be a danger to health, particularly if, like most of us. the user is not "average" in size. Every day, the typical office desk and chair requires us to bend forward and hunch over our work - and all of that bending is being achieved at the ex-

pense of our spines. But there is an answer: forget personal exercise trainers, office masseurs and hunch hour aerobic classes. Many back experts recommend that the huxury personal health item on every overworked executive's new year perk list should be a specially-tailored power chair and power desk, created to minimise the strain on shoulders, neck and lower

Back experts suggest that our poor record on back pain is due to our increasingly sedentary lifestyle: more and more people are doing jobs which involve sitting all day in one position. One poll by Mori, the market research organisation, showed that one in ten of us is likely to suffer from back pain for more than ten years; another survey, from the same source, shows that eight out of ten of us will, at

some point, suffer back pain. This sort of damage is gradual," says Matthew Bennett, the assistant secretary of the British Chiropractic Association. "It comes from bad sitting habits which put more and more strain on your back

"Being an office worker who spends all day delicately tapping away at a computer keyboard could well be more dangerous for your back than, for example, being a drayman who regularly lifts heavy beer barrels skilfully and correctly and does a different type of activity in between times."

We decided to test the theory of dangerous office furniture for ourselves by selecting, at random, two Times journalists of very different height who sit at the same office furniture. Louise Hidalgo is 5ft 3in tall: Peter Barnard is 6ft 5in tall. What, we asked Mr Bennett, was their office equipment doing to their backs and their necks, and how could things



Tackling the slump: because of his height, Peter Barnard sits too low, left, but is helped by raising his keyboard

copy paper) to prevent her having to constantly strain her neck by looking at them on a flat surface. The result — with the aid of standard-issue chairs, which are adjustable up and down — was that her elbows were at 90 degrees to the desk and her knees at 90 degrees to the floor. Ms Hidalfelt the improvement

Mr Bennett was satisfied, that, in this case, he had succeeded in getting her sitsaid. He was right again. Our tall subject, Peter Barnard, does indeed get an ache in his lower back when he sits for long hours doing his job.

The chiropractor achieved what he considered to be a 75 per cent improvement in seating position by raising Mr Barnard's keyboard on a block of copy paper and seating him on the forward-tilting wedge. Without these adjustments, his desk was far too low for him, making it impossible to get his

you will develop pains," Mr Danford says. "The best seating position is one that alters regularly." For most back experis, constant change of position can not be over emphasised. "The human body is designed for vigorous activity followed by periods of rest. It is not designed to be static." Mr Bennett says. One important advantage of the chairs we used which is not Technology makes it

mammais, it is only man who

seems to think it is natural to

remain in one position for

long hours. "If you remain

motionless for a period of an

hour or more, in any chair,

possible to sit at a desk all day . . . it was never possible a century ago

the ball bearings of your chair when you switch activities in this way than to wear out the ball bearings of your back," Mr Bennett says.

adopt a semi-kneeling position. But most would now only recommend them for a small number of people, and such chairs all day. Experience of their use in Sweden has shown that some users can develop knee problems.

seeds of a lifetime of bad sitting habits are sown in early childhood.

A study of more than 1,200 schoolchildren aged 11 to 17, carried out at the University of Pittsburgh, and published in the American Journal of Epi-demiology earlier this year, showed that more than 30 per cent reported a history of low back pain. Of those, one in three were restricted in their activities by the pain, and one in four had sought treatment.

Mr Bennett argues that, in Britain, from the age of five onwards when we have to conform to school chairs and desks designed from some notional "average" child, our natural ability to sit the right way for our spines is constantly

n Dickens's time, the much-oppressed children in Tom Gradgrind's school in Hard Times were given their regulation desk and their regulation seat. In that sense, unlike Danish schools, for example, where adjustable desks and chairs are provided, we have made progress. From accept that we should expect our bodies to adjust to fit

standard chairs and desks. New technology makes it essible to sit at a desk all day in a way that was never possible a century ago. We can now do our research without moving, thanks to computer data systems. We can even, if we wish, send messages to our colleagues via the computer. There is never a need to move

an inch. Yet just as we are spending more time sitting, office chairs and desks are becoming even less well-suited to our needs. As an example, chiroprac-tors point to the typical for-ward tipping position a child adopts at school, with the chair precariously balanced on its two front legs as a youthful attempt to solve the problem and put the body back into its natural unstrained position. The open angle at the hip provided by this posture allows

to achieve on the chairs we all Far from being encouraged in this attempt to sit as nature intended us to, however, most teachers are likely to respond to chair tipping by relling a

child to "sit properly".

the back to function properly,

yet this position is very difficult

● To obtain further informa-tion and names of registered a large SAE, to: The British Chiropractic Association, 29 Whitley St. Reading, Berkshire, RG2 OEG. The National Back Pain Association is at, 31-33 Park Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW1 1 QAB (081-977 5474).

Cheer up, it's soon over

 people look forward to the conventional pleasures of the season, there are also many who dread it. It is popularly supposed that people prone to depression are likely to suffer a bad episode at Christmas. The statistics do not bear this out. In the West, there are two peaks for major depressive episodes: the largest in the spring, a lesser one in autumn. The pattern for suicide is similar. Nevertheless, Christmas is a bad time for many people who suffer from milder forms of depres-sion, and it is interesting to examine the reasons for this, and make some suggestions about coping with it.

One of the constant fea-tures of depression is loss of elf-esteem. In response to failure, bereavement, or other forms of loss, everyone suffers from some degree of depression. But most people have enough built-in sense of their own worth to see them through the ups and downs of ordinary life.

In contrast, those who are liable to the severer forms of depression have no such confidence. In response to adversity, or perhaps with no precipitating reason, such people feel hopeless, help-less, and self-reproachful. They cannot look forward to anything; and if they look backward, all they see is sin and failure. Suicidal thoughts are common. Severe depression involves the whole person, body as well as mind: sleep, appetite. and weight are all affected. These are the people we deem mentally ill, who ur-

gently need treatment. In between these extremes of normal and psychotic are a whole host of people who suffer from less severe depression in response to circumstances. These are the people who lack enough built-in self-esteem, and who are therefore dependent on outside sources for its maintenance. Diabetics who cannot manufacture their own insulin require injections of it. Depressives who have no inner source of self-esteem require repeated injections of reassurance, love, and success to maintain emotional

For such people, Christ-nas can sometimes be a threat. Although convention pictures a loving family, exchange of presents, feasts, games and joility as boosting morale, we all know that it isn't always like that. Christmas often means overcrowded houses, irritable or drunken adults and tearful children. Christmas may bring to the surface underlying tensions in families which are not usually manifest. We can all get along



ANTHONY STORR

with our relatives if we don't see too much of them. Charity demands that we care for those who are lonely and miserable because they have no family. But vulnerable people are just as likely to become depressed because of

too much family. Moreover, Christmas is a holiday. People who are liable to depression often dread holidays. If they are lucky enough to have a job, they find that work gives them a daily boost, Recognition by work-mates as well as the exercise of skill is good for morale. It may absurd that so brief a holiday as Christmas can precipitate depression, but I am sure that it can do so in people who are dependent upon work to maintain their self-

That should potential depressives do at Christmas to prevent the black cloud's descent? Jung said: "Good advice is often a doubtful remedy but generally not dangerous since it has so little effect." In spite of this, I offer one or two suggestions. First, don't be too self-sacrificing. Putting yourself entirely at the service of the family will reinforce the depressive feeling that you are worthless and hardly exist.

Get away from the crowd, and keep some of the day just for yourself. Second, if you have a bobby like carpentry, gardening, fishing, or cooking, take care that you create opportunities to exercise your skill. Depression makes people feel helpless as well as hopeless; and anything which can counteract this feeling is valuable.

even if this is no more than going for a brisk walk. Vigorous action is an antidote to depression, perhaps because it alters brain chemistry. In addition, exposure to light helps those who become depressed only during the dark winter months. Fourth, remember that Christmas, aithough recurrent, doesn't last for ever. If you take a few precautions, you may even enjoy it.

IL AIRWAVES

in my neck and shoulders," Furniture you use every day may be a danger to your health if you are not 'average'

be improved simply?Before

seeing Ms Hidalgo he predict-

ed that, because she is petite,

she would feel the strain on

her neck and shoulders rather

Someone who is slightly smaller than average often

spends all day reaching up to a

keyboard because it is too high

for them. This puts continual

strain on the neck and shoul-

der muscles and forces the

person to hunch uncomfort-

Mr Bennett's prediction was

correct. "I don't get any pain

in my back, but I do get pains

ably over their work.

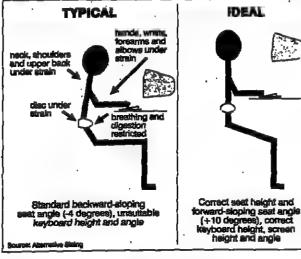
than in her lower back.

Ms Hidalgo said. Like most women, she also sits at a desk with her legs crossed. Chiropractors point out that constantly adopting a cross-legged posture will put a strain on the pelvic joints and soft tissues and cause pain.

Ms Hidalgo was advised to put her feet flat on the floor, slightly apart. This is not something which comes naturally to most women, and the typical office "uniform" of heels and a straight skirt positively discourages it. But when she tried it, she found it much more comfortable. Mr Bennett also brought her a soft seating wedge which tipped her forward slightly, putting her spine back into its correct,

makeshift support (a pack of

Her papers were placed on a



ting 100 per cent correctly with the aid of a few simple props. If her legs had still been left dangling above the ground when the top half of her body was correctly posi-tioned — as many people's are - a few telephone directories or a wooden block would have solved the problem, in spite of the absence of a height-adjustable desk, which is the ideal.

Such desks are now available, as are chairs with their own in-built tilt-forward mechanism, although, as yet, it is mainly specialist backcare shops which stock such items. For tall people, sedentary work is likely to mean pain in the lower back, Mr Bennett

legs underneath it. This, in turn, forced him to sit with his head jutting out at an angle tailor-made to give him lower back pain.

Strange at first, was Mr Barnard's verdict, but a definite improvement once you got used to it. For more improvement still, Mr Benness suggested raising the desk on blocks, or, better yet, an adjustable desic Both our subjects were ad-

vised to vary their activities as much as possible and also do a few simple stretching exercises Paul Danford, a chiroprac-

tor in south-west London. points out that of all the

shared by some office furniture, is that they are on a fivestar wheeled base, making it easy for the user to move around from, for example, reading to typing to answering

the telephone.
"It's far better to wear out

Some back specialists were impressed a few years ago by chairs which allowed us to would not advise sitting in

"WHAT" WE ASKED A NUMBER OF DISTINGUISHED INDIVIDUALS, "ARE YOUR FIRST MEMORIES OF BOOK TOKENS?"

HERE ARE SOME OF THEIR ANSWERS.

"It just seemed to me mayic, as a child, that what was virtually a birthday card could buy a book. As an invention they have produced more happiness than most things in the 20th century." July Cooper.

"I'd find myself wondering what hook I'd buy with it, looking forward to a trip to the bookshop from which, magically, I would return with a book which hadn't cost me a penny." TERENCE BLACKER

"I vividly remember trying to spend my first Book Token. I finally purchased a completely unsuitable book of adult short stories which I devouted with shock and horror." MARGARET DRABBLE

MEMORIES THAT LAST FOREVER. Not Bad FOR A CHRISTMAS PRESENT.



Book Tokens can be bought at more than 3,000 bookshops. What other gift has such power to broaden the horizons?

WHETHER the midwinter solstice is called Saturnalia, Yuletide or Christmas, feasting has always been part of it - and with the feasting comes the alcohol. The message, now accepted by the overwhelming majority of doctors, that alcohol in moderate quantities is life-preserving as well as life-enhancing, could comfort the 90 per cent of the population who

will drink alcohol during the next week.

Although the common belief is that a glass of wine, a half pint of beer and a tot of spirits all equal one unit - or 15mg per 100ml of blood - wines and beers vary enormously. with some almost twice as strong as others. ■ The amount of alcohol needed to appear drunk varies by up to 25 per cent in people of the same sex. All but a few men show obvious signs of inebriation at 100mg per 100ml, just under a bottle of wine. Women need considerably less to reach this point. At 300mg per 100ml there is a danger of coma and even convulsions, and at 500mg death becomes a probability rather than a

possibility.

It should be noted that at 80mg per 100ml, the driving limit, many hardened drinkers

Drink and be merry

could well kid even their grandmothers that they were sober.

Any attempt to drink to the limit is rightly discouraged, but evenings at this time of the year can be very long and half a bottle of wine taken at dinner between 8 and 9 will not be endangering the licence at midnight.

Alcohol is removed from the body at 15mg per hour — so roughly a glass of wine, half a pint of beer or a tot of spirits is dealt with hourly. The majority is detoxified by the liver, but 5 per cent is excreted unchanged in the urine and sweat. The rate of absorption of alcohol in women is parily determined by the state of their hormones. Women become inebriated more readily at the time of ovulation (mid-cycle) and just before

The Pill, like pregnancy, interferes with the breakdown of alcohol in the liver, so Pill users

POLICE NE than other women. Alcohol should not be taken to excess in pregnancy but one or two glasses of wine with the Christmas turkey will hurt neither the baby nor the mother. Cases of foetal alcohol syndrome, the pixie-faced

> severe alcoholic. Spirits are absorbed less quickly than wines, as when strong drink reaches the stomach its outlet, the pylorus, closes and the alcohol remains in the stomach, from which it is absorbed more slowly than from the small intestine. Weaker drinks sneak through into the small intestine where, as they are absorbed rapidly, they can have a more instantaneous effect. Champagne, although strong, is so bland that the stomach is deluded and allows the fizzy drink to pass rapidly into the intestine and hence the blood stream. Adding some

deformity, are confined to children of the

mixers to spirits has the same effect. Fatty foods reduce the rate of absorption.

■ Women sober up less quickly than men but regardless of the sex if an average person has an equivalent of a bottle of wine in their bloodstream when they go to bed at midnight there will still be alcohol in their blood the next day. If the drinker goes to bed with the equivalent of a bottle and a half in the blood stream they may be near or over the limit if they make an early start for the office.

Dider people who are not regular drinkers notice that alcohol affects them more than it used to, and it may take them longer to sober up. The seasoned cask on the other hand who has continued to drink heavily, but who hasn't suffered liver damage will sober up as much as one third faster than those less practiced. If older people don't get a headache the next day they should pause before they congratulate themselves, it may merely be because they have started to develop cerebral atrophy, and there is room for their brain to swell without becoming constricted.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

The legendary impartiality of Britain's civil servants is being eroded, writes Anthony Howard



Why am I an unreliable witness just because I don't know where I was when Thatcher went?

t last week's British Psychological Society conference, the subject of "flashbulb memory came up. Evidently new research has shown that, while the average person claims to have "flashbulb memories" linking his own personal experience to great public events (the day war broke out and so on) by and large he is actually unreliable. Because, ask him what he was doing when he heard Mrs Thatcher had resigned, and he doesn't know. How dreadful. "Thatcher, you say?" he repeats and then changes the subject to John Lennon, where he is on safer ground. Is he a fool, a liar, or a self-deluder, this average person? Possibly all three. It is a sad day for all of us. After all, had we known how important it would prove later, we might have made notes, and shot a couple of Polaroids. 'Old it flash bang wallop, as Tommy Steele used to say.

Just to clarify things, a flashbulb memory goes something like this. "That's right, I was about to worm the cat, and the radio was on and I remember thinking I really must empty the bin. and then I heard on the news that Mrs Thatcher had resigned, and for some reason I stood bolt upright and quoted The wind moaned in the like that the night father died' from Three Sisters."

Cast aside, then, all intrusive thoughts of memorable flashbulb scenes from the movies however high those great moments from Sunset Boulevard and King Kong and Half a Sixpence leap for attention. Flash! Flash! William Holden greyly suspended Flash! in the swimming pool, and the reporters above with their curious muffled noises and their sudden Flash! explosions of light. Stop it. Memories of flashbulbs are worthless in this context. Saving the possibility that you can remember precisely what you were doing the first time you watched these movies, the only connection is that you stick it in yer family, stick it in yer family, stick it in yer family al-burn.

eing a naturally rather touchy person, i am offended by the notion that just because I can't remember my exact location when the Thatcher news broke I am therefore unreliable as a courtroom witness. "Milud, my client wishes it to be known that she does, on the other hand, remember what she was doing when she heard about Marc Bolan's car crash, if that's any use." My own theory of the selective flash is that any terrible news you first hear on the morning radio (death of John Lennon, for example) is a candidate for the Magicube, while something seen later, on the TV, is not. And that much more vivid than either is the street-number effect, when someone delivers the news in person, amid a great pantomime abracadraba of light and smoke. "There's a bomb in John Lewis." someone breathlessiv informed me last week, "Blown the place to smithereens" And even though this information turned out to be slightly exaggerated, it certainly went flash bang wallop, believe me.

It might at first appear irrelevant, but I keepthinking of the middle-aged Scottish couple who appeared in the BBC2 series Signs of the Times. lamenting and reviling their own taste in interior design. "That table has never looked right," they said, glumly. "We thought those cushions might help, but they didn't. No, they made it worse." The bane of their lives was the carpet, which for some reason they felt powerless to remove. It was patterned and garish and they loathed it, but since it refused to wear out, they considered themselves stuck, for ever.

Now, did they remember buying this carpet? Indeed they did - so vividly that they even had a flashbulb memory. "We had just finished laying it." they said, in all seriousness, "And we looked at the television and John F. Kennedy had been assassinated," What a picture. What a photograph. These poor people, enslaved for nearly 30 years to a few square yards of rubberbacked wool. And to top it all, they emerge as unreliable witnesses under the flashbulb memory test. Ask them if they remember the day Kennedy died, you see, and they merely act peculiar. "Will no one free us of this turbulent carpet?" they shout, and pull their hair. Not the sort of response, unfortunately, that recommends you to

state, not to the government that happens to be in office, still less to any particular member of it. In Britain a certain reserve has traditionally characterised the attitude of bureaucrats towards politicians. Their relationship with their political masters may be polite and cordial but it is rarely intimate or close. Thrown together in the work of a department, each side recog-

and distinct functions. If the ministers formulate the policy, it is the mandarins who have to make it work. Until recently, their protection against being in any way partisan always lay in their healthy awareness that, come an election, they could well find them-selves promoting entirely differ-ent policy objectives. The long Tory hegemony has, however, changed all that.

nises that it possesses separate

This is why some people consider the permanent secreary to the Treasury's written offer to meet a proportion of the Chancellor's legal expenses incurred in evicting an embarrass-ing tenant from his private home to be full of constitutional Is Whitehall turning Tory? reactions, the former prime an instinctive sympathy seldom minister had plainly succeeded prospered. Her first scalp, inmenace. We do not yet know -

and perhaps never will - the precise nature of any conversathat an official minute proposing a helpful hand-out from public funds could have landed cold on the Chancellor's desk simply beggars belief.

For the entire incident to make any sense, there must

surely have been some preliminary conversation between Norman Lamont and Sir Peter Middleton. Even if it simply consisted of grumbles on one side and sympathetic noises on the other, some believe it should never have taken place and must be regarded as wholly improper. Lord Callaghan, never a man

to mince his words, has branded the consequences that flowed ful". More ominously, he specifically denounced the tendency of ministers to regard the civil service as "part of their private fieldom". That may be pitching things a bit strong but, to judge from the public and private

in touching a raw nerve. Nor occasion for surprise. One clear, and perhaps neglected, danger of having one party in power in seeming perpetuity is the threat it necessarily poses to the objecthe civil service.

No administrative grade civil servant under the age of 35 has served anything but a Conservative government even more revealingly, there is today not a single permanent secretary in Whitehall who was not appointed by either Margaret Thatcher or John Major. In an ideal world that might have prompt-ed the civil service to be even more vigilant than usual about maintaining its tradition of political detachment - but, alas, the real world does not

work like that. Lady Thatcher, in particular, always made it clear that the path to preferment lay through being one of us". Those in

deed, was that of the permanent head of the home civil service, Lord Bancroft, whom she summarily removed within two years of coming to office. Add to. that the adventurous, leapfrogging nature of many of her appointments (including that of Sir Peter Middleton himself. appointed permanent secretary of the Treasury at the age of 49) and it is not surprising that the message soon got across.

n his underrated volume of memoirs, Balance of Power, Jim Prior relates one story that tells it all. On the then prime minister's very first visit to the Department of Employment one official had the ternerity to stand up to her, interrupting one of her tirades with the pointed enquiry: "Prime minister, do you really want to know the facts?" That deputy secretary, according to Lord Prior, never got promoted and finally felt compelled to

director of one of the country's most successful public companies.)
Of course, all long-serving

prime ministers play some part

in creating a civil service in their own image, and Lady Thatcher was certainly not the first to take an energetic interest in the appointment of permanent secretaries. Lord Wilson did the same if, characteristically, in a much more cautious, conventional way. But there are other developments that have also seemed to undermine the traditional non-partisan nature of Britain's race of administrative flected in the government's policy of hiving off power from Whitehall and placing it instead in the hands of specialist agencies. Frequently created in the pursuit of some legislative purpose, such bodies are rarely able to display the same detachment from the political battle that the Whitehall civil service has traditionally prided itself upon. The

according to the purists, as something of a cautionary tale. It remains, however, Lord Callaghan's view that the edges of impartiality have now been so effectively chipped away even within Whitehall itself that the time has come to establish a commission on ethics in government with the task of redefining the relationship between civil servants and ministers. As a constitutional initiative coming from an ex-prime minister, it certainly has the ring of disinterested statesmanship; but it is still possible to wonder what exactly it would be

expected to achieve. The truth is that the way government is conducted in Britain has always been a matter of custom and usage rather than of statute and prescription. It depends ultimately on mandarins and ministers recognising their own separate spheres and rigorously keeping to them. That may involve a certain distance between the two - and if Sir Peter Middleton and his successor, Sir Terry Burns, erred, it was because (no doubt from the friendliest of motives) they crossed a dangerous demarca-

In need of radical surgery

Alan Ryan asks if Bill Clinton can cure his country's sick health system

The American health care system is so extraordinary that one's first reaction to most of the statistics is disbelief. The country spends 13 per cent of gross national product on health care: Britain spends about half that, and Canada, the next biggest spender, about two thirds. Britain and Canada provide universal coverage; but in America 37 million people -15 per cent of the population are covered neither by govern-ment schemes for the poor and the elderly, nor by private insurance.

Most of the non-poor, and non-elderly are covered by schemes run by their employers. "Benefits" have for years been as important as wages in labour many disputes. The attraction of paying in benefits is simple: companies deduct health costs as expenses of doing business, and their employees pay no tax on the value of the benefits they receive. But it has got out of hand; the chairman of the Ford motor company told the presi-dent-elect's Little Rock economic summit that his company spends more money on health care than on steel. Many firms reckon health care adds 20 per cent to their wage bill, and many others are desperately trying to take away the benefits they gave when health care cost a mere 5 per cent of GNP.

Health care is not only absurdly expensive, it is maldistributed in every way possible. In the nicer parts of urban and suburban America, there is a great over-supply of services. Paradoxically, this does not lead to a fall in the price of care but a rise. One reason is the over-use of expensive technologies, like magnetic resonance imaging. Hospitals have to have such equipment to keep their associated doctors happy, while doctors have to use it to justify its appalling cost. Since it is still under-used, cost per use re-



American medical pioneers, 1875: a century later ever more sohisticated treatment is too expensive for millions

The worst situation arises when doctors themselves invest in facilities to which they send their patients — a practice some states outlaw, and other states have discovered doubles the rate at which patients are sent for expensive tests.

Outside the nicer parts of urban and suburban America there is a great lack of facilities. Black infant and maternal mortality figures are like those of a Third World country. An Afri-can-American born in Harlem today has a lower life expectancy than a baby born in Bangladesh. The countryside is bad for your health too. The rural population is more accidentprone, suffers more chronic iliness, has a lower life expectancy and a higher rate of infant mortality than town dwellers.

Since medical practice is an individual matter - once qualified, you find an office or join a hospital, and operate on a solo basis - most doctors work in the places where people like them-

ore surprising is that they earn most in the places least need of their services; but it seems that doctors have an idea of what a suitable income is and set their fees accordingly. Insurers pay "reasonable and custom-ary" fees, which means in essence whatever doctors decide, and the salaries of doctors have recently risen as fast as their numbers.

The puzzling thing is that little is done about it. Everyone

knows that the country spends twice as much on health as on defence, that the budget deficit could be cut in half if Congress got a grip on health care spending, that Americans do not get good value for their health-care dollar. Employers and employees alike are fed up with a system that reduces the mobility of labour because workers are scared to lose the health insurance that comes with their jobs. It is also a deterrent to the entrepreneur, since newly started firms cannot afford to pay for their workers'

health care. Nor are the doctors happy. They feel persecuted by the insurers' efforts to keep costs under control. Patients with insurance have no reason to care what it costs, and those without are lucky to get more than perfunctory treatment. Cost control falls on the

insurance companies, which make doctors fill out elaborate details of the procedures they have advised, reviewing their advice, and making patients seek second opinions. This in-volves floods of paper. It drives patients to distraction and adds enormously to the costs of administration for the doctors and the insurers.

Some insurance companies make money. Too many do it by "cherry-picking". They offer cover to young, healthy people, and not to the elderly or the ill; they reduce the coverage they offer when you fall ill and need the money, refuse to cover longterm diseases like AIDS, and operate in a fashion that is

they threaten non-profit insur-Cross and Blue Shield, which operate under charters that require them to insure everyone and to maintain their coverage no matter what.

Faced with a system that is beloved neither by patients nor doctors nor insurers nor the government, the new Congress and president have a chance to reform it. The question is how. "Socialised medicine" on the pattern of the National Health Service is out: Americans are much too attached to "fee for service" medicine. Doctors and insurers have also run a terrific disinformation campaign on the supposed failings of the Canadian system, which 80 per cent of Americans say they

prefer to their own. The favoured system is "managed competition", under which employers and the government guarantee health insurance for everyone, while the insurance companies will im-plement procedures to drive down costs by making the providers of medical care compete for the patients sent to them by the insurers. The political crunch will come when those

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Will the states and federal government set a global budget which the insurers have to live within? If so, will American doctors put up with such con-straints? Will the insurance companies, who spent enormous amounts of money during the last election try to fend off this much political control? The American political system is a wonderful device for frustrating the electorate by allowing wellorganised pressure groups to dictate the details of legislation, and an alliance of the insurers and the medical profession will be hard to beat.

Yet nobody has convincingly shown how "managed competition" can reduce, or even control costs, without a politically decided global budget. To square that circle, President-elect Clinton will have to combine a "policy-wonk's" passion for detail with Harry Truman's ability to hold Congress's feet to the fire of public indignation. He has no choice, however, the economy will get sicker by the minute until Congress, pressure groups and public take their medicine and sort the system out.

The author is Professor of Politics at Princeton University.

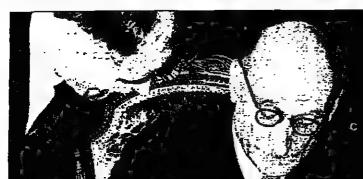
Saintly questions

IN SPITE of his successes at Edinburgh, John Major will still be hoping for something of a miracle to ensure ratification of the Maastricht treaty in the new year. He is not the only one. The Vatican faces the tricky question of whether it should beatify Robert Schuman, the French politician and architect of European unity, a step which would make him the first politician this century to embark on the long path that leads to sainthood. Schuman, whose life's ambition

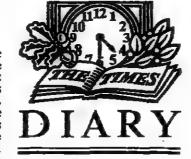
was the creation of a European federation, was first proposed to

Rome's Congregation for the Causes of Saints in 1988 and the Pope has been in deliberation, it seems, ever since. The mysterious body, housed within the Holy city, remains charmingly silent on the matter of whether politicians should be permitted to join the august ranks of the saints and would not comment on Schuman yesterday except to say: "There must be proof of a miracle granted by God through the intercession of the person concerned."

The Pope, however, has made it clear that he would be "interested"



Heaven sent? Robert Schuman, the architect of European unity

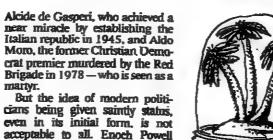


in a celebration of beatification for the former president of the European Parliament as early as 1994.

Schuman, who died 29 years ago, was first proposed as a saint with the backing of the Bishop of Metz and no less a politician than Helmut Kohl himself. But the question of miracle-making remains a moot point.

Contemporaries, including Konrad Adenauer, certainly deemed him worthy of sainthood. The philosopher and theologian, Romano Guardini, judged Schuman to be "one of the holiest men in our world". Indeed, asked why, as France's foreign minister, Schuman held his dream of European unity, he replied: "Because I believe in the Christian foundations of

Hot on his heels to sainthood are



acceptable to all. Enoch Powell yesterday dismissed the concept, saying: "I would be reluctant to beatify politicians. What they do is not beatifiable." Stephen Hawking, author of the

best-selling book A Brief History of Time, clearly still has a few problems with the concept himself. Hawking, Sue Lawley's Christmas day guest on the extended version of Desert Island Discs, turned up at the studio 45 minutes late.

Hamper freeze

THE Lord giveth and the Lord takcth away. The same is true it seems of Harrods. First what the Knightsbridge store taketh away - about 850 of Harrods' long-service pensioners who have received a Christmas hamper every year for the past 25 years will go without this Christmas as the recession takes it toll. One pensioner, who refused to be



Hot, hot, getting hotter

FED UP with watching colleagues swan off to exotic locations, the BBC's Antiques Roadshow team leapt at an invitation from the Jamaican tourist board to do a show in

It would fill a gap in February's schedule between programmes from Warwick and Macclesfield. There was only one problem. The Jamaicans had never seen the Antiques Roadshow. Helped by good deal of pre-publicity, some 4,000 islanders througed the

open-air courtyard of Devon House. Many hopefuls, according to producer Christopher Lewis, clutched stainless steel forks and enamel saucepans in the belief that the Roadshow experts were buying items, rather than valuing. But the team did find enough to excite them, including a Cartier clock and an 18th century metal helmet dug up on a beach. Such discoveries excited the islanders, too. Since the team left, Jamaica has held its first antiques fair, Lewis says.

named, says: "I worked for Harrods for 17 years and 1've been a pensioner for ten. This is the first year I haven't had a hamper. I nornally get a bottle of sherry, a Christmas pudding, a tin of turkey, things like that."

Michael Cole, media director for Harrods, replies: "Harrods staff are currently experiencing a pay freeze. The hampers are a privilege not a right and we will review the situation next year. Santa has had to tighten his belt a little this year." But Harrods giveth, too. In the

hope of bringing a little Christmas cheer to the people of Sarajevo, Mohamad Al-Fayed, Harrods' chairman, has just dispatched a Santa outfit for Larry Hollingworth, the logistics officer with the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, along with sweets and toys for the Bosni-

Hollingworth, whose white beard could make him Santa's brother, will distribute the gifts which, with unfortunate timing, include 100 whistling toy helicopters.

Comparing notes

AS THE Prince and Princess of Wales make final their arrangements for separation, legal circles are abuzz with speculation over how the princess came to choose Paul Butner as her lawyer.

According to Andrew Morton. the author of Diana, Her True Story, the princess was offered a shortlist of five legal brains - but this does little to explain why, or indeed how, the little-known Butner, of Grays Inn firm Wright Son & Pepper, was finally picked.

But there is a possible explanation. The Duchess of York in her separation was represented by Charles Doughty of the exclusive matrimonial law firm. Withers, In the past Doughty has been known to pass work, particularly legal aid work on to Butner. While legal aid is clearly out of the question, could it be that the royal sisters in-law have been comparing notes?

Still stuck for an idea of what to give the golfer who has everything? At North Carolina's Talamore at Pinehurst course, the smartest way of getting your clubs around is to use one of the three resident lla-mas. At \$100 a round they are not cheap, but boy will they look impressive lining up that final putt.



MUSLIMS AWAKE

Who isn't going to Sarajevo this year?

COAL SCUTTLE

The proposed pit closures were illegal as well as inept

CHRISTMAS TRAVEL

Christmas Past: a series on the unchanging face of the season.

Three: From The Times of December 21, 1944

A Christmas visit by John Major to the British troops in Bosnia would come as no surprise; such a meeting makes political sense and would be a decent Christian gesture. It should, however, provoke some thought about other leaders, notably those from Islamic states, who have not been seen anywhere near the Balkan war zone.

Islamic states are in confusion, unable to act as an umma or concerted Muslim nation. The war in Bosnia is highlighting the powerlessness of Islam to respond to a conflict that threatens a whole Muslim community. So, despite strident calls for arms shipments to be sent to the Bosnian Muslims, despite the appeals for a jihad, no Arab leader ventures close to Sarajevo.

The Bosnian crisis directly affects two million European Muslims. If it spreads, to Kosovo and Macedonia, if It drags in Bulgaria, Albania and even Turkey, then tens of millions of Muslims will be at war against a Serbian army that draws on the imagery of the Orthodox church.

Mosques and minarets are aiready targets in the Bosnian war; far worse can be expected. Yet the Islamic Conference Organisation has generated few ideas towards resolving the conflict. Supplying guns to the Bosnians — as the Islamic states threaten to do from January 15 — is unlikely to change the tide of war unless it is part of a more comprehensive strategy. The Islamic volunteer brigade in Bosnia is a tiny ragamuffin

group of Afghan veterans of no significance. Money is flowing to house Muslim refugees, but few have been offered homes in Islamic states. The impotence of Islam is also evident outside the Balkans. When 20.000 Indian Hindus ransacked the mosque of Ayodhya, there was a lukewarm response, even from Iran, which merely appealed to the Indian government to make wise and calculated decisions". The famine in Somalia should have pressed Islamic states into urgent action. The country is,

The High Court yesterday inflicted as em-

barrassing a defeat on the government over

pit closures as Tory backbenchers did last

October. In deciding to close 31 mines,

British Coal and the government "unlaw-fully and irrationally" ignored the rights of

mineworkers and their unions to be con-

sulted, said Lord Justice Glidewell in outlaw-

ing the closures. To the charge of political

incompetence, which necessitated a climb-

down two months ago, can now be added

the charge of administrative incompetence.

Coal between them have got matters so

badly wrong? British Coal has been closing

pits for years, and ought to know backwards

the provisions of the Employment Protection

Act and the colliery review procedures.

Michael Heseltine, president of the Board of

Trade, should have ensured before he made

the announcement of pit closures that all was

in order legally. It is not even known

whether he sought help from law officers on

the matter. In an extraordinary illustration

of Whitehall's continuing obsession with

secrecy, the attorney-general's office refuses

to disclose not only his advice to ministers but even whether he has given advice at all.

familiar with employment legislation him-

self. But it is his job to anticipate potential

pitfalls. Mr Heseltine's officials, who have

The news that a blizzard has been sweeping

the Atlantic coast of America, that in West

Virginia a two-coach passenger train was

lost in snowdrifts forty-five miles east of

to the bottom just when the success of their

It is not the job of Mr Heseltine to be

How can the government and British

after all, a member of both the Arab League and the Islamic Conference Organisation. The inability of the Muslim governments

to develop multilateral solutions to the problems that affect Muslim communities plays into the hands of fundamentalists. The coincidence of three crises, Bosnia, Somalia and India - and the slow progress on the future of the Palestinians, is breeding new generations of fundamentalist militants.

Every day, small humiliations add to the anger that is currently directed not so much against the Christian West as against those moderate Arab governments that raise barely a squeak when their fellow believers are ill treated. The competition for influence in the Asian republics of the former Soviet Union is typical of the exhausting, selfdefeating nature of Islamic policy abroad.

There is also a division between Sunni and Shi'ite spheres of influence in central Asia. In Bosnia, Turkey is playing a useful role in trying to keep Islamic pressure within the confines of the overall UN peacekeeping strategy. But Iran is straining at the leash. Its ambitious arms procurement programme seems to be enhancing its status as a regional power and it is eager to test its influence. Certainly, it will be the first of the Islamic states to ship guns to Sarajevo if the January 15th deadline is ignored.

Those Serbs who already claim that they are fighting a religious war will promptly declare a propaganda victory. The time has come then to try to draw the Islamic states more closely into global decision-making, to make more demands of them. They should help pay for the Balkan refugees who are putting so much strain on Germany, Austria and Croatia. They should be encouraged to treat the Somali famine as a matter of the most urgent concern for the Islamic world. And it would do no harm at all if a Saudi prince, following in the steps of Christian leaders, were seen in Bosnia with a convoy of

longer experience of energy than he has,

should have been alert to the possibility that

the law was being broken. It is not seemly for

governments that make the law to be seen to

Mr Heseltine is already trying to shift responsibility to British Coal for this fiasco.

Accountability is always hard to apportion

between a nationalised industry and its

decision to close the pits was clearly taken

jointly; if anything, the energy department

and its successor, the trade and industry

department, were keener than British Coal

Responsibility must therefore be shared.

The question is how it will be shouldered. If

it was the fault of a minister, it illustrates a

disregard for legal procedures born of

complacency. If the minister was badly

advised, then the official concerned was

Either way, Mr Heseltine's reputation has

been badly dented. Until last October, his

political judgment was thought to be acute.

He allowed himself to become out of touch

and was humiliared by his backbenchers.

Now his managerial competence is in

question too. Anyone who thought two years

ago that he might be suitable prime

ministerial material must now be relieved

that he is not now in Downing Street.

guilty of serious incompetence.

to shut down the mines.

ponsoring ministry. But in this case the

be breaking it, particularly so cavalierly.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

'Farcical' rejection of Channel 5 bid Cost-efficiency of 'doomed' hospitals

From Sir Hugh Dundas .

Sir. Your report (December 19) about the Independent Television Commission's rejection of the Channel 5 licence application quotes David Elstein, one of the most experienced and intellectually well-equipped television executives in Britain, as saying that the decision is "indefensible". Certainly we need a fuller explanation than has been forthcoming so far if suspicions about the ITC's motive are to be allayed. In particular, the commission's view that the sole bidder had failed to demonstrate an adequate degree of investment commitment seems, in the light of the facts, as I understand them, farcical.

What are those facts? In September, a late stage in the application process, the ITC told Thames Television, leader of the applying consortium, that it would not make the provisional award without formal documentary evidence that the great majority of the funding - or 70 per cent at least was firmly in place. That had not been a condition stipulated in the original rules covering applications.

The consortium planned that half of the required 70 per cent funding would be provided by Thames and half by Time Warner, one of the world's largest and financially strongest media companies.

Thames was able, in the short time allowed by the ITC's new edict, to compile and provide the documentary evidence in relation to its 35 per cent. in the form required. Time Warner was unable to do so, mainly because of its own somewhat rigid rules on board approvals for major financial commitments. However, it provided cate-

gorical assurance in writing.

Final and formal approval from

Time Warner was expected to be forthcoming during the 12-week period between the provisional award, on December 18, and the actual grant of a licence. That interval had been specifically provided by the ITC in order that the financial arrangements of a successful applicant could be

Thames's financial participation was backed in writing by the board of its principal shareholder, Thorn EMI. Strong expressions of willingness to participate financially were submitted by Pearson and Associated Newspapers. in this country, and by Cox Enterprises and Capital Cities-ABC in America. It would be hard to imagine a group of companies containing greater financial strength combined with relevant technical and opera-tional expertise and experience.

One can hardly be blamed for suspecting that the ITC seized upon a technicality to provide it with an excuse for rejecting the application, thus postporting sine die the launching of a fifth television channel.

Although I accept that ITC rejects that charge, I believe that the commission must have been strongly influenced in its decision by a desire to protect, perhaps particularly in London, the companies to which, a year ago, it awarded licences under the bingo-like procedures so unfortunately and, indeed, foolishly put in place by a Tory government. So much for greater competition and choice in broadcasting.

Yours faithfully, HUGH DUNDAS (Chairman, Thames Television Ltd., 1981-7). The Schoolroom, Dockenfield, Farnham, Surrey. December 19.

Fishery disputes

From Captain Philip Gibbon, RN (reta)

Sir, In destroying the registered Taw mussel fishery in north Devon (photograph and report, December 12) the authorities overlook the fact that mussels will continue to grow naturally in the estuary. The fish are readily accessible, and in the absence of the legitimate fishermen the area would be prohibitively expensive to police effectively. There is a profitable market for mussels and an unregu-lated fishery will inevitably result.

Since unregistered operators are unlikely to observe the niceties of the licensed and demonstrably safe purification process used by Mr Hill, the fisherman in your photograph, there really will be a public health threat when he shuts down next spring.

My association and others have been pressing the authorities and South West Water that the Taw/Torridge should be regarded as a special case and assistance given to the fish-ermen to relay in cleaner waters until the new works planned by the water company are complete in about 1997.

Yours sincerely, PHILIP GIBBON (Chair, Mollusc Committee, Shellfish Association of Great Britain). Fishmongers Hall, London Bridge, EC4.

From Mr Jack Willans

Sir, You report (December 7) the fortuitous release of thousands of rainbow trout fingerlings into the river Kennet below Marlborough. I have had a rod on the river between Mariborough and Ramsbury each season since 1962 and know the river

Such a release can be a nuisance rather than a disaster and is eventually self-correcting. Such an accident on the Kennet below Hungerford a few years ago caused consternation for a time but not much more.

Many fisheries repard rainbows as vermin and do not count them in the day's bag, the object being to take and kill as many as possible. I have found catching the occasional rainbow a welcome addition to my bag on days

when I caught few brown trout. Dr Giles of the Game Conservancy is quoted: "... most anglers are much more interested in taking home a big bag of hatchery fish than in catching and releasing wild fish." I don't understand the logic. Any well-run fishery absolutely prohibits continu-ance of fishing after the limit for the day is reached unless barbless hooks are used, and even then it is much frowned upon.

Yours faithfully, JACK WILLANS, 93a Penhili Road, Lancing, West Sussex.

Museum disposals

From Mr David T.-D. Clarke

Sir, Your correspondent Dr Walter J. Rosenfelder (December 14) is under the popular and, alas, still current misconception that museum collections are solely for exhibition.

While this is admittedly a vital part of their function, they are all preserved for the public benefit, and stored material, in addition to providing resources for changing displays on the premises or elsewhere, is an essential part of their service for research at all levels from GCSEs to PhDs.

A little reflection as to the potential consequences of the policy Dr Rosenfelder advocates, namely to dispose of stored items, will reveal its dangers. Our many generous donors would be disindined to entrust their gifts to the prevailing whims of the

moment, and our credibility would be

In the longer term, unscrupulous governing bodies would be tempted to use museum collections to finance cherished projects, even by introducing subservient directors, and individ-ual staff could be subjected to heavy pressures from outside.

The Museums Association has therefore consistently opposed dis-posal except in defined circumstances and under strict conditions, which have been endorsed by the Museums and Galleries Commission.

Yours faithfully. DAVID T.-D. CLARKE (Convener, Ethics Committee, The Museums Association). 1 Orchard Close, Combe, Witney, December Ió.

Professor P. H. Plesch (letter, December 15) at Bernard Levin's "Incredible shrinking world" article (December 10). However, as in his quite hilarious

31), Levin does make a serious point. It seems to me that what is being questioned by this son of approach is the near-religious fervour with which many scientists insist that this magnificent universe, nature and life. with all their staggering complexity, are merely the product of blind.

25, referring to Darwinism, that "the search for a better theory is now wide open". I personally believe that Professor Sir Fred Hoyle is on the

In his outstanding book, Evolution from Space, he states that "no matter how large the environment one considers, life cannot have had a random beginning".

Yours most sincerely. BERNARD A. REEVES. 12 Knowle Avenue, Bexleyheath, Kent. December 15.

From Professor R. A. Lyttleton, FRS Sir. Your young essayist, Bernard Levin, can ease his troubled mind caused by the decreasing radius of the Earth as great as a full millimetre a year, because the actual rate of

diminution is nothing like so great but is only one tenth of a millimetre a Yet even this minute rate can result over 3,000 million years in producing

mountains at various regions of the surface of the Earth: "God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." I concur with Mr Levin that some scientists are incarnadined idiots, but

we have to live with such people. It is the religion of scientists to try to find out how these wonders are really performed. But if ever Mr Levin sees his first atom bomb, which I trust he won't, he will have just a fraction of a second left in which to realise that somebody somewhere really knows something about something.

R. A. LYTTLETON, University of Cambridge, Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge. December 15.

Business letters, page 19

From Dr Peter Draper

Sir, Jeremy Laurance reports (December 16) that Sir Bernard Tomlinson is "astonished at the degree of acceptance of his report". Laurance puts his finger on what he rightly calls the paradox at the heart of the report: "If London has too many hospitals, why is there no room in them?" One might add: "And why are waiting lists still an international disgrace?"

Unfortunately, Sir Bernard's hur-ried assessment of London's current and future health needs was frankly amateurish. For example, as his report revealingly says, "although we have not seen it as part of our remit to carry out a comprehensive health needs assessment ... we have looked briefly at various indicators" (para 20).

Similarly, having stated that Londoners are "no less healthy than people elsewhere", on the very next page the Tomlinson report notes that page the folialised mortality ratios for inner Londoners aged 15-64 "stand out even more starkly ... with an overall average of 121" (para 26).

The Tomlinson report is no basis for hacking away at London's health services. The acute financial problems created by the mad "internal market" that has been foisted on the NHS need to be solved in different ways. And the complex health-planning problems of the capital deserve serious attention.

Yours sincerely, PETER DRAPER (Emeritus Consultant to Guy's Hospital). 12 Eastwood Road, Muswell Hill, N10. December 16.

From the Chief Executive of the Royal Brompton National Heart & Lung Hospitals

Sir, Simon Jenkins ("Suffer the little children", December 16) refers to "the eight doomed specialist hospitals" as being "so inefficient and expensive that the internal market will soon bankrupt them". Had Mr Jenkins checked his assumptions with the Royal Brompton Hospital and with the London Chest Hospital he might not have made such a sweeping

Royal Brompton and the London Chest Hospital are demonstrably both efficient and effective. An operational review of both hospitals this year has resulted in a 20 per cent reduction in staff costs, together with a reduction in our number of medical consultants a precedent, I think, in the National ready to compete in the internal

market. A recent study by a consulting firm for the Department of Health shows our two hospitals to be 21 per cent more efficient than comparable hos-

pitals, and on December 17 (although Mr Jenkins was not to know at the time of writing) the Higher Education Funding Council for England awarded a grade 5 — the highest possible grading for excellence — to Royal Brompton's associated research in-stitute, the National Heart and Lung Institute, for "its clinical research based wholly or chiefly" at Royal

Brompton (report, December 18). There is much sound sense overall in Professor Tomlinson's report. However, his proposal to move Royal Brompton to the Charing Cross Hospital is severely flawed, as has been revealed in a comprehensive and objective economical and financial

review by Ernst & Young. We are striving to present our opposition to the proposed move to the Charing Cross on the basis of facts and reason, since it is our view that an emotional response and transparent attempts to manipulate the political scene are both inappropriate and unacceptable.

Yours sincerely, Chief Executive, Royal Brompton National Heart & Lung Hospitals, Sydney Street, Chelsen, SW3. December 21.

From Mr Murtin Rees

Sir, For whom does Simon Jenkins speak in criticising those who are

trying to save St Bartholomew's Hospital? I shall declare my own interest. My son has been treated for the last two-and-a-half years at the children's cancer unit at Burt's. When I read Professor Tomlinson's report, I do not shudder or squirm. I experience simple, straightforward fear. There is no surplus capacity for the treatment of childhood cancer in London, and I know at first hand that the unit at Bart's is frequently under enormous

If the Bart's unit were to be closed and no alternative, and at least equivalent, facilities provided elsewhere, the consequences would be unthinkable.

Tomlinson makes no concrete proposals for the replacement of capacity lost, particularly for speciality treatment that can never be provided in district general hospitals. The patient has no way of knowing whether such proposals will ever be made. He stares

into a black hole. Patients are, at any given time, a small weak minority. They cannot defend themselves effectively, but they can reasonably expect careful consid-

eration and even media support. Yours faithfully

MARTIN REES. 15 The Mount.

Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire.

Howard Carter's grave From MrT. G. H. James, FBA

Sir, Your Archaeological Correspondent, in reporting (December 5) on a recent appeal in the magazine Archaeology seeking to raise funds for the rehabilitation of the grave of Howard Carter, appears to be un-aware that fees for the upkeep of the burial in Putney Vale cornetery have regularly been paid by a member of the Carter family and that the plot has been regularly embellished and tended by an enthusiastic supporter of

the archaeologist's life and career. The stone surround is not in the best of condition and the inscription on the headstone is not easy to read: but few simple burials over 50 years old show the affectionate care devoted to Carter's grave. The inscription is, of course, of its period and its reading should present no problem to an

epigrapher of fair competence. Some things can be done for Carter's grave, but the best intentions should be tempered by a consideration of the views of members of the Carter family and of others who have taken a serious and sympathetic interest in the site.

Yours faithfully, HARRY JAMES (Keeper of Egyptian Antiquities, British Museum, 1974-88). 14 Turner Close, NW11.

Hong Kong's future

From Mr Dick Wilson

Sir, Hong Kong was at first elated by Chris Patten's reform proposals (letters, December 9, 14, 16), believing that these would lead to (more or les benevolent) one-party rule of the kind thrown up in all other East Asian states on which Western-style democracy was imposed, from Japan to Singapore, South Korea to Taiwan.

Now, however, China has shown its anger and the Hong Kong people see more clearly the risks of constant and financially damaging friction with their future masters.

We should not push them into forms of democracy they do not immediately demand: the time is too short. If that had been our perceived role we should have done it much

earlier and given it time to settle. If we push democracy onto them now, we have no way of protecting the tender plant after 1997. Only they can devise a strategy for living within the People's Republic.

Yours truly, DICK WILSON (Editor, Far Eastern Economic Review, 1958-64), 67 Grove Lane, Camberwell, SE5.

Older mothers

From Dr Jean Wilson Sir. Older mothers are not a new phenomenon (letter, December 21).

Women have always borne children right through their fertile years, which extend well into their forties. What are recent, in modern industrialised societies, are the in-

tentional limitation of family size, and the choice by some women to have their first babies comparatively late in

Yours faithfully, L WILSON, Wholeway, Harlton, Cambridge. December 21.

Unseasonal tidings

From Mrs Anita Tingey

Sir. The Central Office of Information has just produced a special Christmas edition of the Single Market Report on behalf of HM Customs and Excise, on the front cover of which is a panel wishing the readers "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!" in all the single-market languages.

The Spanish version reads "iFelices Pascuas y Feliz Año Nuevo!". Pascuas is Spanish for Easter. For me, this sums up our state of readiness for the single market and the quality of product we plan to supply it.

Yours faithfully, ANITA TINGEY. Wellway House, Vicarage Road, Finchingfield, Essex. December 20.

From Mrs Jane Roberts

Sir. What a sad reflection of our times that this traditional "season for giving" seems to be increasingly reinterpreted as a "time for getting".

This evening we have had two visitations from young "carol-singers", who, having delivered one reedy verse of "We wish you a merry Christmas", seemed astonished at the suggestion that the content of their collecting box should go to any worthier cause than themselves.

Yours faithfully. JANE ROBERTS, 29 Morella Road, SW12. December 20.

Letters to the editor that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number -

Charleston, and that the relief expedition was itself stranded ten miles short of its objective, may do something to console those who this year may find themselves unable to make their customary Christmas journey to relations or friends. A member of the Brains Trust recently attributed the popularity of the "Jack and Jill went up the hill" nursery rhyme to the pleasure children, as well as grown-ups, take in the disasters that happen to other people and mentioned that the real charm of the verses lay in the lines which. describe the unfortunate pair's numble down

> water-carrying expedition seemed assured. It is not necessary to take so poor a view of human nature to admit that the plight of benighted travellers does send a reprehensible, but unmistakable, glow through the veins of those forced by conscience or circumstance to stay at home. The travellers were in no real danger, and an obscure conviction that somehow it serves them right and that they had no business to be on the train at all allies itself to a complacent counting of blessings. At least we are not imprisoned with a herd of strangers without food or drink - the size of the train rules out the compensation of a well-stocked dining-

> desire to obey the exhortation of the posters which kept us off the railways shines in a brighter light than ever. Christmas cards are responsible for a number of misconceptions about the character of an English Christmas and the kind of weather that usually accompanies it, but it takes a hard and unromantic heart to resist

car — and the prudence or the patriotic

the appeal of the illustration of the stage coach, with its cheerful air of bustle and animation, which decorates so many mantelpieces at this time of the year. There indeed seems the ideal way of travelling; slow the journey might be, judged by our modern, feverish ideas of speed, but surely the warmth inside, the tingling glow of the frosty air out, and the atmosphere of jollity and good-fellowship with which the Christmas-card artist manages to pervade the whole must have made the time pass quickly

Debunking is a crude word for the subtle. if suspect, art by which LYTTON STRA-CHEY reduced the imposing personalities of the great Victorians to the dimensions of gesticulating figures seen through the wrong end of a telescope, but it is expressive, and what STRACHEY unfairly did to the persons of the last century, MR THOMAS BURKE convincingly does to the delights of

coaching days and ways: "Among the other joys of coaching." he writes, "were a broken axle-tree, a broken drag-chain on a hill, broken reins, a broken bridge, a flooded road, and," he goes on with the relish of the true de-bunker, "in addition to the natural dangers, you might meet a serious danger belonging specially to the Christmas season - the danger of the drunken coachman, by which the coach might be overturned, or get off its right road, or even, through the coachman's half-blind

state, turn round and go the other way." Looking upon that picture and upon this of the trains lost in drifts of West Virginia, it seems that when it comes to travelling at Christmas, whatever the century or circumstances, the best way of making sure of arriving is, as the stage Irishman put it, to stay where you are.

Wonder of science From Mr Bernard A. Reeves

Sir, I sympathise with the irritation of The missing link, c'est moi" (August

mindless, purposeless "chance", un-aided by an intelligent mind. You observed in a leader of August

right track.

COURT CIRCULAR

KENSINGTON PALACE December 21: The Prince of Wales this morning departed from Royal Air Force Lyncham for a visit to Czechosłovakia.

Mr Peter Westmacott, Miss Belinda Harley and Mr Richard Arbiter are in attendance. YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE December 21: The Duke of Kent this evening attended the 25th Anniversary Hospitals Carol Concert in aid of the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children at the Royal Albert Hall. Commander Roger Walker, RN was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE

RICHMOND PARK December 21: Princess Alexandra. Patron, this evening attended a "Celebration of Christmas" in aid of the Mennil Health Formitation at Guildhall, City of London.

The Lady Mary Mumford was in attendance.

Appointments in the Forces

CAPTAIN: J M Castle - Ordenance Board 2.2.93: G M Heathcote - MOD London 14.12.92: R N E Payne - Staff of CINCFLEET 12.1.93.

14.12.92; K N E PRYNE - SEAT OF CINCFLEET 12.1.93.
ACTING CAPTAIN: H P May - MOD london 5.1.93.
COMMANDER: E C Atkinson - Brussels 25.3.93: J Bruce - MOD london 2.7.93: K Jones - Daedalus 30.3.93; C P R Montgomery - MOD london 29.1.93; J Owens - Staff of FOSF 39.1.93; C C Peach - Dartmouth, BRNC 14.1.93; W J R Pennefather - MOD London 35.5.93; J R M Prime - MOD London 35.5.93; J R M Prime - MOD London - 18.5.93; B K Ridley - Staff of FOSF 26.2.93; J F J Simpson - MOD London - 18.5.93; B A S Turner - Defiance 12.3.93.
SURGEON COMMANDER: T R DOUBLES-Riley - Dartmouth BRNC 23.11.93; R W Smith - RNH Gibraitar 14.93.
Retirements

REAR ADMIRAL: C H D Cooks Print -3.5.93; 1 H Pirole - 6.2.93.

LT GENERAL: Lt Gen Sir Henry Beverley ECB, OBE to be placed on the retired list 8.6.93. LT COLONUT: L. Col ni li I. Ward in be Act Col 18.12.92, Lr Col J R Atter to be Loc Col and to RMS Conturion 122.93.

122.93.

MAJOR: Maj T A Philipou to be Loc Li
Col and to NATO Defence College
Rome 52.93: Maj D R Tong to HQ TRF
RM 15.1.93: Maj D R Tong to HQ TRF
RM 15.1.93: Maj M Y Cooke to MOD
20.4.93; Maj E A Gibson to RM Poole
22.1.93; Maj T M Gregory to HQRM
lot staff of CINCPLET 1.4.93.

The Army Lieutenant General Sir John Wilsey to be Commander in Chief United Kingdom Land Forces in the rank of General, from March 1, 1993, in succession to General

Brigadier W J P Robins OBE to be Assistant Chief of the Defence Staff Command, Control, Communications and Information Systems; in the rank of Major General, from January 8, 1993, in succes-

sion to Rear Admiral R Walmsley. Brigadier M A Wilkocks to be Director General Land Warfare in the rank of Major General, from March 27, 1993. LIEUTENANT COLONEL: 15 Duncan AGCISPS) - TO HQ BAOR, 23.12.92

BEIGADIES: A P Simm late KINGS, 23,12,92. COLONELR: M Minimon Late PARA.
25.12.92; H G Willimore Late
STAFFORDS, 26.12.92. Royal Air Force

Air Marshal Sir Michael Alcock is appointed Air Member for Supply and Organisation in the rank of air chief marshal in succession to Air Chief Marshal Sir Brendan Jack-son on June 30, 1993. This appointment carries with it membership of the Air Force Board of the Defence Council. AIR COMMODORE: I imclanbury-to MOD 24-12-93

MOD 24-12-92
WING COMMANDER: ID Minchell - ID
RMCS Shrivenham 21-12-92: A J
Ovens - ID MOD London 21-12-92: C
Cruse - ID S Def Coll Greenwich
21-12-92: T P Brewer - ID RAF Unit
GOOSE Bay 7-12-92: C Heliper - ID AC
CGS 7-12-92: C C Nash - ID SIDE Bentiey
Priory 7-12-92: J G Parkey - ID RAF
Buchan 7-12-92: T R Miskelly - ID HQ
STC 30.11-92: M J GOOd - ID MOD
ACDS 30.11-92: A J Brookes - ID SC
Bracknell 4-12-92: J M Kingston - ID
RAF Chivenor 14-12-92: J D Mitchell - ID
RCMS Shrivenham 21-12-92: P J Allan
- ID HQ RAFIC 2 ATAF 14-12-92: J J Allan
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- ID HQ RAFIC 2 ATAF 14-12-92: J JALIAN to MOD CVE 14.12.92; J D Mitchel- to RCMS Shrivenham 21.12.92; F I Allam - to HQ RAFE 2 ATAF 14.12.92; J P Chitty - to RAF Bruggen 14.12.92; J P Chitty - to RAF Bruggen 14.12.92; A L Lewis - to HQ RAF FTS R Manor 14.12.92; E J McLean - to HQ STC 7.12.92; G M Misber - to FiQ RAF Germany 7.12.92; J A Partington - to MOD AFD/D SigiAth 14.12.92; M G Salter - to CSDE Swamon Moriey 14.12.92; I Sinkinson - to RAF Wyton 7.12.92; J Sinkinson - to RAF Wyton 7.12.92; E M Thornton - to BM(Wpors)15/RAF 7.12.92; P A THIVII-to SM(Wpors)14/RAF Ldn 14.12.92.

Birthdays today

Air Chief Marshal Sir John Aiken, 71; Mr James Burke, broadcaster, 56; Dr Alan Bush, composer, conductor and pianist, 92; Viscount Davidson, 64; Mr Noel Edmonds, broadcaster, 44; Mr Maurice Glob and Mr Robin Gibb, singers, 43; Miss Patricia Hayes, actress, 83; Mrs Karin Jonnen, sculptor, 78; Dr Judith McClura headmistress. The Royal School, Bath, 47; Mr Trefor Alfred Morris, former chief constable. Hertfordshire. 58: Mr. Chris Old, cricketer, 44: the Rev Lord Sandford, 72; Lord Stott, 83; the Duke of Westminster, 41; Colonel W.H. Whitbread, brewer, 92; Mr Ken Whitmore, play-wright, 53: Sir Peregrine Worsthorne, journalist, 69.

Memorial service

A Memorial service for Nick Lloyd will be held in Clifton College Chapel on Saturday, January 9 1993, at 11,30 am.

Royal engagement The Duke of York will visit RMS St Helena in Queen Alexandra Dock, Cardiff, at 11.30.

Anniversaries BIRTHS:

Karl Abel, composer. Cöthen, Germany, 1725; John Crome, landscape painter, Norwich, 1768; Jean Henri Fabre, naturalist, St-Léons, France, 1823; Giacomo Puccini, composer, Lucca, Italy, 1858; Edwin Arlington Robinson, poet, Head Tide, Maine, 1869; Edgar Varèse, composer, Paris,

DEATHS: Duc de Sully, soldier and states-man, Villebon, France, 1641; Wil-liam Hyde Wollaston, physician, London, 1828; George Eliot, novelist, London, 1880; Dwight Moody, evangelist, Northfield, Massachusetts, 1899; Baron Richard von Kraff-Ebing, neuro-psychiatrist, Graz, 1902; Nathanael West, novelist, El Cento, California, 1940; Beatrix Potter, children's writer, Sawrey. Lancashire, 1943; Harry Langdon, silent film star, Califor nla, 1944.

Aifred Dreyfus, a French army officer, was imprisoned on Devil's Island on a charge of espionage later proved false, 1895. The 70mph speed limit was introduced in Britain, 1965.



Manchester

Recent grants include:

A & RC: Endochondral ossif Professor M E Grant, El 19,679

Protessor M. & Chang 1:19,679.

British Heart Roundation: The role of lipid second messengers in the development of cardiac and vascular structural changes in hypertension. Dr. V. Ohanian, Dr. J. Ohanian, and Professor A. M. Reagery, £134,001.

Institute of Education: Newscare Training for Economic Avareness Mr. S. Hoddinson, £132,926.

MEC. Means I mediation of Means I means a second means of the contraction of the contraction

MRC Neural mechanisms of move-ment disorders Professor AR. Crossman and Dr M A Sambrooks,

ment ausorars Processor A.M. Crossman and Dr M A Sambrooks, 1229 A15; Mapping pemphiques anti-body binding sites on desmosomal glycoproteins Professor D R Garrod, 1200,692; Isolation and characterisation of the bilatocyst neeptor for attackment at implantation Dr S J Kimber £198,124; Resources for molecular characterisation of human chromosome 2935 and 2937 Dr A Read, Dr T Strachan and Dr G M Taylor £188,359; Longitudinal studies of cognitive changes in old age Professor P M A Rabbitt £171,899; The structure and function of type VIII collagen in the human vasculature Dr C A Buttleworth and Dr C M Kleity £135,903; High resolution genetic and physical mapping the long arm of huma chromosome four Dr M J Dixon and Dr I & Hewitt £100,742
NERC 40Ar - 39AR Chronology, mobile

and Dr I & Hewist Ll 09,742

NERC 40Ar - 39AR chronology, noble
gases and hallogen geochemistry
Professor & Turner 2211, 224; Rinetics
of aluminositicate mineral - carboylic
acid andon reactions during diagenesis
Dr. D.A.C. Manning Li 47,993

North Western Regional Health
Authority (Supplementary): Clinical
research centre for community maring

— Newton Heath, Professor C. A.
Sutterworth, Li 36,000.

SERC An Environmental scapning

SERC: An environmental scanning

Designed to help: Noah Pryke, aged one, looks out cautiously from a wooden cot specially made by his father Nick and other young furniture designers to be sold to raise money for families in the former Yugoslavia. The cot, with bedelothes and a toy, will be on view at the Decorative Arts Today exhibition at Bonhams, Knightsbridge, London, from January 25 to February 7. Bidding starts at £500

Institute of Marine **Engineers**

The following have been elected fellows of the institute and may use the designatory letters FIMarE: C.S. Brooks; M.S. Cheyne; D.C.D. Claric D.L. Cunningham; C.E. Egeberg; G.H. Fabian; A.A. Khan; J.T. Ogumtokun; Capt. R.N.M. Paige, RN; Y.D.N.N.J. Perera; E.J. Rooduyn; D. Rowson; J.R. Sethur, C.W. Shu; G.K. Sunner, T. Tate: Capt. J.E. Westphali RAN; T.S. Wilkinson.

Appointments

The Princes of Wales to be Parron of the Huntington's Disease Amociat

Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Knight to be Chairman of the Air League, in succession to Mr Michael Cobbam, who retires when he becomes a life vice-president. R.J. Wilson, headmaster of Trinity School, Croydon, to be chairman of The Headmasters' Conference

Mountbatten medal

Prince Michael of Kent, Commonwealth President of the Royal Life Saving Society, has approved the sward of the Mounthatten medal for 1991 to Mr Ken Oswald Mayers of St Joseph, Barbados, West Indies, for his rescue on December 28, 1991 at Bathsheba.

Dinner

for 1993.

Maccahacan Lord Justice Balcombe, President of the Maccabacans, presided at the annual Chanukah dinner held last night at the King David Suite Miss Fanny Waterman and Mr Nicholas Hytner were the guests of honour. Judge Michael Rich, QC, also spoke.

Middle Temple

Judge Kenneth Richardson, QC, has been elected treasurer for 1993. D.D. Hollis, QC. has been elected deputy treasurer.

University news

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A PARTY

alectron microscope for the study of materials in their natural state, Dr A D'Emanuele, Professor M W J Ferguson and Dr C E Hughes, 2214,141; Recurrence for loop emeasions (REFLEX), Professor J R Gurd, EJ30,440; Difference Difference Company of the Comp Differentiation and productivity of Penicillum chrysogenum: Professor A P J Trinci and Dr G D Robson, £124.816;

A molecular analysis of the insertion of membrane proteins into the analogiasmic reticulum. Dr S Fligh and Professor K Gull, \$123,313; Inspirations of bitraduction of the BC1-2 gene into CHO myeloma cells for prevention of cell apoptotic death. Dr A J Dickson, Professor K Gull and Professor J Hickman, \$10,223. Professor J Hickman £101,222.

EMHA: Research fellow in cardiothoracic surgery Professor C.
McCollum and Mr T L Hooper,
160,876; A comparison of the
migratory behaviour and matrix
biosymbasts of fibrobless obtained
from all levent surger of healthy wenter
lag where Dy G freiend, 643,273

leg skerr Dr G trelend, 642.273
Wellcome Trust: Characterhathin of cell adhesion sites within fibromecin Dr. M.J. Brumphries and Professor M. E. Grant, D40.000; Wellcome Unit 1992/93 Dr. T. V. Picksome, £183.402; Hifers of adveneyte receptor stimulation on the renal proximal Professor R. Green and Dr. J. S. Beck, £142.231; Studies of the structural basis and functional roles of fibromacin Dr. M. J. Humphreys, £116,782; Study of cytokeletal morphogenesis in trypanosomes Professor K. Gull, £108,931.

The following received honorary sor in the Robotics Department of degrees on December 18: school of Systems Engindegrees on December 18: Professor Kenneth Pounds, Profes-

Latest wills

Sir Patrick Michael Meaney, of Sandridge, Hertfordshire, chair-man of the Rank Organisation and El,000 and a quarter of the residue each to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (to whom since 1983 and formerly chief executive of the Thomas Tilling Group, left estate valued at £1,596,593 net. probate has been granted). St Christopher's Hospice, London SE26, and the Marie Curie Memorsal Foundation, and a quarter of the residue to the Royal College

Mrs Marjorie Squire Muirhead, of Temerden, Kent, left estate valued at £1,729.424 net. She left £59,000 and some effects to personal legates, £50,000 to the Imperial Canoer Research Fund, of Surgeons of England. Edith Hearie, of St Austell, Cornwall, left estate valued at £371,116 net. She left her entire estate equally between the Imperial Can-£10,000 to the National Anticer Research Fund and the PDSA. Vivisection Society, and the residue Other estates (net before tax) include: Mr John Ronald Bowser, of Marjorie May Hiller, of Chich-ester, West Sussex, left estate

Reasby, Lincolnshire £540,688. valued at £376,163 net. She left personal legacies totalling £5,000, Mr Miles Boyer, of Amersham. hire £929.342.

Mr Neville Braffey, of Sleaford, Lincolnshire <u>....5558.742</u> Mrs Doris May De Hayes, of London W8.... ____ £556.630 Viola Barton White Lee-Evans, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent. £579,889. Mrs Frances Megan Gardner, of Hassocks, West Sussex. £521,616. Mr Donald Henry Guhb, of Wimborne, Dorset....... \$694,942.

Mr Skiney Kingsley, of St Johns Wood, London NW8 £1,919,294.

Mrs Ruby Violet Speechley, of Uxbridge, west London £509,248.

sor of Space Physics, Hon DSc; Dame Arm Elizabeth Burker-Sizes, Lord Justice of Appeal, Hon DLitt; Mr Stewart Miller, Managing Director Aerospace Group, Rolls-Royce, Hon D'Tech.

Dr Robert Craik has been appointed to a personal profes n the Department of Building Engineering and Surveying

Dr Kenneth Sorbie has been appointed to a personal professor-ship in the Department of Petroleum Engineering.

durray Milgare to be Professor of Personal Chairs have been conferred on: Charles Husband, Professor in Social Analysis; Paul Rogues, Professor in Conflict Analysis.

in Connict Analysis.
The title of Emeritus Professor has been bestowed on: Jack Cairns, Dept of Industrial Technology; Issue Goodman, Dept of Chemicaly and Chemical Technology; Christopher Long, Dept of Che Chemical Technology

Appointments

Dr Makolm McVicar, 'Dean of Humanities and Social Studies to be Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Mr Arthur Collie to be Industrial Profes

founded in the 3rd century BC, and destroyed several times in wars with Rome. It was abandoned in the 4th century AD when its population moved to nearby San Antonio. The site is noted for a striking square building some 15 metres on a side, with five rooms and a pseudo-Doric portico, thought to have been a market.

Forthcoming marriages

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Mr R. Burrell and Miss C.L.M Goold

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs Colin Burrell of Nettlebed. Oxfordshire, and Cherry, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs John Gould, of Wirswall Hall, Whitchurch, Shropshire.

Mr W.L. Cowan and Miss J.A. Harries

The engagement is announced between Bill, son of Mr William Cowan and Mrs Kay Cowan of Perthshire, Scotland, and Judith, daughter of Dr and Mrs Peter Harries, of Ascot, Berkshire.

Mr R.S. King and Miss L.J.F. Dalton

The engagement is announced between Rupert Saulez, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter King of-Brailsford, Derbyshire, and Louise Jane Frances, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Dalton, of Burrows Green, Brailsford, Derbyshire,

Mr A.J. Straughan and Miss K.A. Lagoni

The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Dr J.K. Straughan, of Cleobury North, Shropshire, and of Mrs Felicity Straughan, of Gosforth, Northum-berland, and Kirsten, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Hans P. Lagoni, of Chicago, USA.

Mr T. Tacchi and Miss B. Kunzi

The engagement is announced between Timothy. son of the late W.H.F. Tacchi and of Mrs M.M. Tacchi, of Kensington, and Betina, daughter of Herr W.E. Kunzi and Fran I.M. Kunzl, of Uetersen.

Mr A.A. Woods and Miss E.A. Downe

The engagement is announced between Andrew, only son of Mr and Mrs F. Woods, of Godshill, Hampshire and Edwina, youngest daughter of the late Mr Michael J. Dowse and of Mrs M.J. Dowse, of Goggstull, Bloxham, Oxfordshire.

Mr K. Lahham and Miss M.L. Scott

The marriage took place yesterday at Regent's Park Mosque of Mr Karim Lahham, son of the late Mr Hisham Lahham and of Mrs Saffiya El-Wakil, of Cairo, Egypt. to Miss Mariella Scott, daughter of Sir Richard and Lady Scott, of Foscote, Buckingham.

Mr E. Bernerd and Mrs S. Ram

The marriage took place in St Moritz on December 11, between Effiott Bernard and Sonia Ramsay (née Ramaiho).

Garrett and Jane Hurst.

The marriage took place on Sat-urday, December 12, at Cheises. Old Church, London, between and

and Miss C.A. Jenkins The marriage took place on Sat-urday, December 19, in the Chapel of the Order of the British John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Christopher Stell, of Chorleywood,

A reception was held in the Stationers' Hall.

Duchy of Lancaster

Mr Christopher Kingston Howes. Second Commissioner of Crown Estates, has been appointed to the Council of the Duchy of Lancaster Ponsonby, with effect from Janu-

TEL: 071 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

This book of the law must never be off your lips; you must keep it in mind day and

BIRTHS ALLIOTT - On December 17th, to Calherine ince Cokes and George. a daughter. Emily Primrose.

EXAM - On November 25th at The Portland Hospital. to Minil and Wengang Liu. a first lovely son. weight Sibs 7oz.

702.
CASTLE - On December 11th.
to Sophia (née Runham) and
Andrew, a daughter.
Georgina - the perfect
Caristmas present. With
thanks to the maternity staff
at Extense. at to Heller.

CHERRY - On December 17th, in Dubat, to Nicote (née Crispe) and Peter. a son.

Andrew James.

L'ARITH - Di December 19th, to Nicota (née White) and Stephen. a son. William Alexander. a brother for Olivia and Sam.

to Francesca and Robert, a son, Marris Guy, a brother to Stress.

FURSE - Cr. Dectanter 12th.

to Clara (née Stemens) and
Filchard, a sun. Magnillian
Jasper.

days - a brother for

Cornelia.

GASTRAITY - On December

21st to Flora (née Spranch)

21st. to Flona (née Sparey) and John, a son, Daniel IMMLEY - On December 1961: to Victoria (née Mather) and Edward. a daughter. Leonora Brilliana.

HATTHILL - On December

16th at The Portland
Hospital, to Katherine (nës
Shipsey) and Martin, a
daughter, Laura Cicety.

MOEMBER - On December

Class to Except to Live 21st. In Parts. France, to Lisa

Cturistopher.

JAMESOM — On December 14th, to Carole and Douglas, a son, Connor Jack, MACKARNESS — On October 30th, to Clare the Meddick) and Christopher, a daughter, Victoria Rose, a sister for Harry.

MACLEUD - On 19th December at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Robert and Susie, a son, Jamie.

Mesuralitet - On December 15th at The Portland Hospital, to James and Erin, a daughter, Rossamond Elizabeth, a sister for Nicholas and Emina.

Elizabeth. a sister for Nicholas and Emma.

NEWMAN - On 19th December. to Barbara and John, a son. Alexander Philip, a brother for James.

OMASI - On December 16th, to Alexandra (née Holcroft) and Andrew, a daughter. Natasha.

PAIMINETON - On December 17th, to Helen and David. a son. Saul Thomas a brother for Samuel. With thanks to be March 19th, to Rupert and Anne (née Budde-Lund). In Cyprus. a son. Magnus Frederick. a brother for Felix.

HAMICAL - On December 19th at the Humana Hospital Weilington. to Kitwe and Robert, a son. Adam. 19th, to Susan (née Parkes) and Mark, a son, Jonathan Michael. STANNAH - On December

19th, at Salisbury, to Cert (née Atkinson) and Jonathan. a sta. Samuel 7AZARI - On December 17th at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Northiro and and Yoko. a daughter, EM.

DEATHS

in a marsing home on December 20th. Wife of the late Prof. Ign Aird and mother of the late prof. Ign Aird and mother of the late and Marshar control of the late and late Buster and Heather; sadiy missed. Private cremation at Tunbridge "Wells Cremato-rium, 2.50. December 29th . Flowers to H.J. Johnston & Son, Chiddingstone Causeway, Kent. Tel: 108921 870572

870572.
CAMADINE - On December 20th. peacefully. Sybil (Wendy). Cremation at Chelletham Crematorium. 2.30 km on December 29th. Donalions if desired to Olave Centre. Lydhurst Road. London NW3.

DEATES CARTWR

ARTWRIGHT On December 20th, peacefully at home, Himley. Beloved husband of Rosamend. Eather of Teresa and Crispian and a much loved grandfativer. Funeral Service at St Nicholas Church. Remenham. on Thursday. Remember 24th at 11 am. Family flowers only. CHAMPREYS - On December

19th 1992, peacefully in bossital. Hosh Phipse Hornthy Champneys, aged 90. Husband of the late Windfred Edith and father of Environment January at Enward and Jean, Berker al Lympne Parish Church on Toesday December 29th at 1pm followed by cremation at Chartop. Family flowers only. Domallons, if desired, to Cancer Research c/o Hambrook & Johns, I Dymchurch Rd, Hythe, Kent. CHANRA! Kant. CHANRA! Kant. CHANRA! Kant. Chantanal, beloved mother of Latu, passed away peacefully on 19th December 1992, in Bombay.

COTTON - On 19th Dec 1982 M. Massbroek Number
Home, Shrewibury, aged 90
years, Frank Harriss, Ph.D.
M.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.P.R.I.
C.Chem. 1951-1965 Head of
National College of Rubber
Technology, Holloway Road.
London, 1965-1968
Singapore Polytechsic.
Beloved of family.
colleagues, past students and
friends the world over. colleagues, past students and friends the world over. Functal on Wednesday 22nd to December at 2 pm at St Michael's Church, Chaglord.

Devon. Family flowers only. Donations if desired in his Donations if desired in his memory to the Alzheimers Disease Society. 158-160 Balham High Road, London SW12 9EN. Enquiries please to the Ameral directors W.R.R. Pugh & Son, talt (0743) 344546. (0743) 344646.

DAWSON - Edward Romer, aged 89. Blochemist with First Cass Honours, MSc. Phd., FIRC. International Consultant for Batters Yeast. died December 20th after a long illness, bravely borne. Before Intuition of Hilds (Miffley) Dawson of Epson. Cremstom at Randalls Park. Leatherhead, December 24th at 11 am. No flowers, no letters please. Donations if wished to Parkinsons Disease Society. Co Longhurst Undertakers, Epson.

DEATES ELLWOOD - On December 20th 1992 very peachfully at Beauchamp House Nursing Home, Hatten Beauchamp Home, Hatten Beauchamp, Eir Aubrey Boarlerk, Alr Marshal K.C.B., D.S.C., D.L. RAF retired, Beloved husband of the late Lesley, greatily loved father, grandfather and peak grandfather. Funeral private, Memorial Service at St. Martin's Church. North Perrott, on Saturday January 9th 1993 at 230ps. Dougleon despect for The RAF Benevolent Fund. c/o Stoodley & Son. Puneral Crewkerne, Somerset, tel: (0460) 73229.

FITZEERALD - On 19th December, peacefully in his own, home after a knowledge of thora Kathleen. Cremation at Paradon Wood Crematorium on Thursday 24th December at 9.30 am.

at 9.30 am.

FOUTUPE CLE - On December 21st. Like Rose of Angelis, Meyery Hampton. Cirencester: Gloucestershire. Puneral 2 pm Theaday December 29th at St Mary's Church, Patriord.

FANCE: Carter Henry, who passed away suddently on 20th December. Funeral will take place at The City of London Grematorium on Tuesday 29th December at 2.30 pm. Family flowers contypuses. but domation to Describe the state of the city of London Carter Church (1998).

Klopen). On December 19th 1992 at Cheisey Park Nursing Home Offssissauga. Outsrio) of Alzheimers Disease. Survived by her son Adosesse. Adam and her brother John.

HAMBROUGH - On
December 20th 1992.
peacefully at Dalecare
Nursing Home, Stockcross,
Monica much loved mother
and grandmother. Fungral
on Thursday December 24th
at 11.30 am at St John's
Cturch. Stockcross,
Newbury. Enquiries to
Messrs Camp Hopson (0636) Church. Stockcross. Newbury. Enquiries to Mesers Camp Hopson (0636) 523523.

of Clifton Road, Wimbledon, SW19. diet on 17th December 1992. Funeral Service at Putney Vale Crematorium. 1.15 pm.

DEATES

to the National Trust.

HART Herbert Ligner Adolphus on December 19th, pescentity at home. Husband of Jenifer and tather of Joanna, Adam, Charles and Jacob. HOSEBANTS - On Documer 23st 1992, in Oxford, after an innesse borne with humenes courage. Peter Geoffrey Bericwood, beloved of JSI. Cremation at the Oxford Crematorium on Thursday December 24th et 11.46 am. Thursday December 24th at 11.45 am. Kidb - On December 18th, peacefully in Wimbledon. Eunice Georgina. aged 100 years. Much loved wife of the late Alec. mother of Hamista and grandmother of James and Nicholas. Funeral at 9.30 am December 24th at 8 outh London Crematorium.

LAVERS - Henry Albert, of Speen. Newbury. Berkshire. peacefully at home after a short lineas. No flowers please. Enquiries to Turner Bros. Funeral Directors, 15 Hampton Road, Newbury. Berkshire RG14 GDB, lel: (0638) 41615.

LAWRENCE - On December

COSSO 44615.

LAWRENCE - On December 18th 1992. Peter Lawrence 18th 1992. M.R.A.S. M.B.L.M. of Welvyn, Herts. dearly loved husband of Joan and devoted father of Mart. For tomy years with British Aerospace. Crematorium, Garston, Walford, un December 30th at 11 am. Donations. If desired, for The British Heart Foundation. Enquiries to Geo W Blow & Some. Timpus Yard, Church Street. Welwyn, tel: (0438) 714686.

LEGH - On December 1st 1992, suddenly at his home in Florida, USA, Mr Churles Lesh of Adinyson Hall, Cheshire, Memorial Service at St. Peter's Church, Prestoury, Cheshire, on Schurday Jamary 23rd 1993 at 12 noon, MARMAND - On December 19th at Stinchosophe Manger 19th at Stinctontoe Manor 19th at Stinctontoe Manor Nursing Home. Goucester shire. John Downes, lately of Capel Cook. Summertown. Oxford, aged 82, following a short filmest. Funeral at St. Peter's Church, Hareshed, nr. Gloucester, at 12,30 pm on Thursday Docember 24th 1992. Plowers to Sarah Heywood (nee Markiand), on 0452 720342.

DEATES MATHEWS - On December 18th. peacefully. The Reverend Arthur kemieth Mathews O.B.E., D.S.C., in his 87th year. Date and venue of Thanksgiving Bervics to be amounced.

Service to be amounced.

Sill STEIN - On December 21st, suddenty and peacefully in London. Nethern aged 88, beloved hisband of Therese and father of Maria and grandfather of Costanza and Serbac. A truly great arms. Funeral service details to be amounced shortly.

POM LAKOSE

POLIAKOFF - Ina (new Montagu). On December 20th, pescertoly at home in her 30th year, after a short liness bravely borne. Beloved wife of Alex, sister of Bryan. Inother and grandmother. Funeral December 22nd. Memorial Service to be announced. Service to be announced.

PRAIN - On December 18th 1992. Ronald aged 60 at the Lister Hospital, Chelses. Dearly loved husband of Citve and father of Margaret. Susan and lain. Much loved by aums. under, cousins, Other relatives and friends. Requier mass at St. James' Catholic Church. Pope's Crove. Twickenham, on Thursday December 24th 1992 at 9 am. Funeral Directors. T-II. Sanders & Higgs. 153 Heath Road. Twickenham (081) 892-2611.

REMMER - On December 18th. at King Edward VII Hospital. Midhurst, Martin. husband of Elizabeth and father of John and James. Cramation private. Thanksgiving Service at All Satust Church. Steep. Peteralleld. on Wednesday Jahuary 13th 1993 at 11.30 am.

SCOTT - On 18th December 1992, pearchally in hospital.
Eva., aged 92. of Great
Bookham, widow of George
Scott and dear sister of
Phyllis Morrison. Puneral
Service at Randalls Park
Crematorium, Leatherhaed. Crematorium, Leathernand.
Surrey, on Tirestay 29th
December at 3 pm.
STEVENS - Professor P.T.
Stavans, aged 86. On
December 17th, peacefully at
The Old Prebendal House,
Shibton-Under-Wychwood,
Oxfordishire.

DEATHS STOTT - Kenneth Alnes

Surrey

Huttle Hotse. St Break.
Jersey. on Saturday
December 19th 1992 aged
30 years loving father of
Date. Verse and March.
Will be sadly missed by ed his
family and wide circle of
friends. Relatives and friends
wishing to attend the funeral
service are invited to meet at
The
Crematorium.
Westmount Broad St United service are invited to meet at The Crematorium. Westmount Road, St Heijer. Jersey, on Wednasday December 23rd at 9,30am. Flowers may be sent to-H.W. Maillard & Son Ltd., Funeral Directors, 34 Great Union Road, St Heiter, Jersey by 5mm Tuesday.

MEMORIAL SERVICES



people - of all ages suffer from arthritis. f you decide to make a donation to charity in memory of a loved one, or in place of flowers, we ask you, respectfully, to remember us as we continue our search for a cure.

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Seeking the Cure.

IN MEMORIAM -PRIVATE

PARWIN - Yvonna, Alway BRARDOT - Peter, died December 22nd 1967 JEFFREYS - In proud an

MEFFREYS - In proud and loving memory of Robin Edmind. Capitath D.S.C., Royal Navy. also of John Derell. Lieutenant K.O.S.B. (strached No.2 Commando) killed in action 1943: and of Edmind Henry. Fight Lieutenant. D.F.C., R.A.F., on this his birthday, shot down over the Channel 10th June 1944.

WREN - On 8th May 1986. Wildrid John M.A. L.M.S.S.A. Ever levingly loday, his Birthday, Dad.

LEGAL NOTICES

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Kathleen Husse, of Weybridge, Surrey 536,185. The bronze plaque, which

in bronze Marriages BY NORMAN HAMMOND

ARCHAEOLOGY THE longest Celtic inscription ever found has been discov-

Celts left

their mark

ered in Spain. Running to some fifty lines of text, the inscription is on a bronze plaque, and dates to the second century BC. The find, at the ancient Iberian city of Contrebia Belaisca near Zaragoza, indi-

cates a high degree of literacy among a people in contact with the Roman world but not yet:absorbed by it. According to Dr Maria Antonia Diaz Sanz, who directed the excavations, the

inscription "is in the Iberian semialphabet, but in the Celiberian language", which was spoken by the Celtic peoples who moved west into. Spain in the first millennium Contrebia Belaisca was

was found in fragments, is about 90 per cent complete; the content of the inscription. however, has not yet been established

Mr D.W.J. Garrest

and Mrs J.M. Hurst The marriage took place on December 18, between William

M Lieuvent Steplio and the Hou Tara Stapleton

Laurent Saglio Stapleton-Cotton. Mr J.G. Stell

Hertforshire, to Ceridwen, only daughter of Professor and Mrs Gwyn Jenkins, of Huntsville,

on the retirement of Sir Ashley

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OBITUARIES

1111

STEVEN ROSS

Steven Jay Ross, who built a family funeral parlour business into Time Warner Inc, the world's largest media and entertainment company, died of complications arising from prostate cancer in Los Angeles on December 20 aged 65. He was born on April 5, 1927.

THERE was no degree in business administration, no family fortune, no network of influence in the background of Steven Ross. He was the epitome of the American Dream: a poor boy who rose to fame and riches by virtue of talent and imagination. His legacy, the culmination of a career which included its share of disasters, is a multi-national publishing, television and film empire, with the power to influence minds

throughout the world.

The son of a Jewish immigrant, who lost his money in the Depression and changed the family name from Rechniz to Ross in 1932 while structure of the struc struggling to find work, Ross showed his gift for making money at an early age. He would borrow cash from his father and walk more than a mile to a supermarket, where he would buy discounted cigarettes by the carton. He then sold them to his father by the pack for a profit.

Ross Senior probably approved.
On his deathbed he gave his teenage son a piece of advice that Steven Ross often quoted as his inspiration: There are those who work all day: those who dream all day, and those who spend an hour dreaming before setting to work to fulfil those dreams. Go into the third category, because

there's virtually no competition."
Ross liked to describe himself as a visionary and a risk-taker, once saying "If you're not a risk-taker, you should get the hell out of business." There were those who disputed the latter claim, pointing out that Ross risked very little of his own money in his enterprises, preferring to rely on remunerative employment plans,

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stock options and bonuses, rather than take entrepreneurial chances. But there was no denying his vision. More than any one man he foresaw the possibilities of cable television. and worked for two decades to spread its electronic tentacles throughout American society.

His career began inauspiciously.
After a brief stint in the US Navy he
went to work for an uncle in the
garment district of Manhattan Then, at the age of 26, he married Carol Rosenthal, daughter of a successful New York undertaker.

diverse group, largely run by family members. The company went public in 1962, with a market valuation of \$12.5 million.

Then in 1969 Kinney bought the alling Warner-Seven Arts film studio and record producer for \$400 million. His management style of selecting good executives, letting them have their heads and paying them generously, was well suited to Hollywood. So was his unerring instinct for popular taste. Warner, soon to be renamed Warner Communications, became a profitable, and unusual haven of stability in the film capital.

While his film studio was turning out such hits as All the President's Men, Woodstock and Batman, Ross was getting into the cable television business. Under his direction, Warner bought the music video channel, MTV, and the Nickelodeon cable service for children's programming. Both became enormously suc-cessful, as did the company's global

record group.
Ross lived well, relishing his wealth, with a social life that began to revolve around such celebrity figures as Barbra Streisand, Dustin Hoffman and Steven Spielberg, but his generosity to his employees matched his own lifestyle. As Warner grew, its lavishness became legendary, with generous gifts all round at Thanksving and Christmas, and corporate holiday homes in Acapulco and Aspen, Colorado. If an executive wanted a face-lift, the company paid. There were set-backs. In 1982,

Warner lost more than \$1 billion with the sudden collapse of its Atari video games division, with Ross being blamed for allowing too much latitude to its management. There was also persistent innuendo over possible connections with organised crime, after two senior Warner executives, close friends of Ross, were convicted for racketeering. No charges were ever brought against Ross, who repeatedly proclaimed his innocence, but as chief executive of Warner he should have known what was going on. The Warner stock plunged after the Atari disaster, and Ross found himself fighting a takeover bid from Rupert Murdoch in 1983, which he fended off only at the cost of selling 20 per cent of Warner to Chris-Craft industries, a New York conglomerate headed by Herbert J. Siegel and Ross warred constantly

over the latter's management style. There was also criticism of Ross's huge compensation - in 1990 he received \$78.2 million in salary and bonuses - which the chief executive angrily defended as "my reward for 30 years work at Warner." Siegel was mollified in 1989, however, when Ross negotiated the \$14 billion deal with Time Inc. which merged Warner with the huge magazine publishing empire and also gave it control of some of America's largest cable television systems. Siegel walked away with a profit of more than \$1 billion on his five-year investment as a result of the deal, which also saddled Time-Warner with \$11.8 billion of debt. At the end of his life, Ross was

consumed with the idea of taking global news and entertainment a step further. He envisaged the use of cable television as an interactive service, providing services ranging from banking to voting, on hundreds of channels. His bante with cancer, however, forced him to withdraw from active service as Time-Warner's chairman and co-chief executive last autumn, and his place was taken by his hand-picked successor. Gerald

Steven Ross's personal life probably suffered from his intense business activities. His first marriage ended in divorce in 1978: his second, to the stepdaughter of William Paley, chairman of CBS, was dissolved in 1982 after only 16 months. He remarried the same year and is survived by his third wife, Courtney, one son and two

ment, stationed near Maribor-

ough and doubling up as Commander Royal Engineers

In 1960 he began his first spell at the Military Engineer-ing Experimental Establish-

ment (MEXE), Christchurch,

as superintendent of mechani-

cal equipment, then in 1964

was made deputy assistant chief of staff (logistics) at Nato's military headquarters

in France. He was promoted

brigadier and returned to

MEXE in the following year

as deputy director and retired

Blomfield became manager

of the New Towns Commis-

sion at Hemel Hempstead on

leaving the army and re-mained there for nine years

before retiring for the second

He was a skilled and enthu-

siastic ocean yachtsman who first sailed in the Fasmet race

in 1939 in the Royal Engineers' boat Hex. In later years

he was content to make slight-

ly less ambitious voyages in his

own boat, cruising round the coast of Britany and

He married his wife Patricia

in 1939, on special leave from

the BEF in France, and is

survived by her and their two

from there in 1969.

time in 1978.

where.

in 3rd Division.

APPRECIATIONS

The Rev Alan **Ecclestone**

THE sensitive and far ranging obituary of Alan Ecclestone (December 17) gave an insight into the life and work of an ourstanding dergyman which can be appreciated by the non-Christian community as well. At the same time, it is necessary to refer to one more dimension of Alan Ecclestone's work which may be the most lasting contribution he has made to contemporary religious thought

His The Night Sky of the Lord was the pioneer work of what might be called "Christian Holocaust Theology". More than many books which followed, it placed Auschwitz in the centre of Christian awareness and addressed the conscience of a community which had remained silent or had professed ignorance of the total evil which had emerged in our time. Alan Ecclesione's careful study of the Christian response to the Holocaust helped create a climate of reconciliation between Chris-



tians and Jews upon which we build today. We mourn his death and feel the need to express our gratitude for a noble life and a profound teaching which ensure his continuing influence in the world of interfaith dialogue

> Rabbi Albert H. Friedlander Dean, Leo Baeck College, London

Baron Geoffroy de Courcel

1 HAVE only one comment to make regarding your otherwise excellent obituary of the late Baron de Courcel (December 12) and that is that you made him sound perhaps unduly formal. In fact, he had a keen sense of humour.

I recall two examples of this. The first was when he accompanied General de Gaulle on a private visit to Prime Minister Macmillan at Birch Grove. Owing to the size of the General's suite, there was something of a shortage of bedrooms, so Lady Dorothy arranged for my husband and Baron de Courcel to share the old nursery. He told me that they whis-

pered to each other during the night "like schoolboys in a dornitory" and that their beds were divided by a shrouded rocking-horse. He found this delightfully English.

On another occasion when General de Gautle had been III and was refusing to rest, my



husband suggested that, as one of the only people the General would listen to. Geoffroy should send him a message advising caution.

"Well", said Geoffroy, "as a matter of fact, I have - you see this time I reckoned I had the Channel in between"!

Hans Züllig

HANS Züllig, (oblusary, Nov-ember 28) acclaimed in 1947. by a Manchester Guardian correspondent, as the greatest male ballet dancer in the world, achieved a level of graceful perfection in his movement that I have observed in no other male dancer. I am sure this was due in part to his amazing devotion to his art: I remember him practising different positions in front of a long looking-glass even when he was taking afternoon tea, when the Ballet Joos was staying with Dr Alice Roughton in Cambridge during the war.

Incidentally it was here that he became, temporarily, the proud possessor of a bottle of whisky, an extremely rare luxury at the time. That night he was disturbed by the opening of his bedroom door. His enquiry as to who was that was



greeted with the dark reply, "A stranger". The door shut. The stranger departed. In the morning the whisky was found to have departed too.

Alexander Hopkinson-

BRIGADIER JOHN BLOMFIELD

Debonair and charming. Ross was

an instant success with the grieving

families at the funeral pariour. Noting that the company's limousines were only used during the day. Ross began to arrange for them to be hired

With the aid of a bank loan, that profitable enterprise turned into Ab-

bey Renta-Car, which in turn merged with the Kinney garage business, an office-deaning firm owned by his father-in-law's cousin, and the inneral parlour. Ross found himself at the head of an oddly

out at night.

Brigadier John Reginald Blomfield, OBE, MC, former deputy director of the Military Engineering Experimental
Establishment, has died aged 76. He was born on January 10, 1916.

JOHN Blomfield was liaison officer for the nuclear weapon tests at Maralinga, South Australia, in the 1950s — later to become the subject of controversy and litigation.

His combination of quiet diplomacy and firmness made him seem a natural selection for the job, which involved acting as an official go-between for the British and Australian governments and the building company responsible for the site. Applying the same qualities to his superiors, he even persuaded them to place an aircraft at his disposal, to enable him to move around the outback and commute from his temporary family home in Adelaide. The OBE with which he was invested on returning to England in 1957 after three years reflected official recognition of his expertise in keeping rela-tions sweet between all the parties.

Blomfield was himself a highly experienced military

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engineer by the time he was hand-picked for the Austra-lian job in the mid-1950s. He had been mentioned in dispatches in France in 1940 in acknowledgement of the part played by his unit, 23rd Field Company, in blowing up bridges and otherwise hampering the enemy during the British Expedionary Force's retreat to the French coast. In the end Blomfield's men were among the last British troops to embark from Dunkirk, eventually crossing the channel in the destroyer HMS

Blomfield was back on the Continent four years later, leading 284 Assault Squadron, a force of about 250 sappers equipped with some 30 converted Churchill tanks. Their equipment included pe-tards, charges of high explo-sive which they fired at the German defences from short range to help clear the way for the advancing British infantry. Interestingly, this was an adaptation and reintroduction of a somewhat primitive form of close-quarters mortar which had been much used for blasting in fortress defences among the armies of Shakespeare's time. The need for such a heavyweight response had been clearly exposed at



the time of the disastrous Dieppe raid in the summer of 1942, when attacking troops had suffered cruelly from the lack of adequate weaponry and tactics for engaging well-defended positions just behind the shoreline. Thus, the humble petard - immortalised in Hamlet's memorable phrase.

but long since discarded by modern armies - came into its own once again during the Normandy landings. Blomfield's squadron took

part in the capture of Le Havre, then worked its way along the coast and into north Germany, clearing the Rhine-land in February 1945, then crossing the Rhine itself one month later. Tragedy overtook it on one occasion when a load of nitro-glycerine blew up during mine-clearing operations, killing a number of

Biomfield himself won the MC for continuous gallantry in the European campaign and was again mentioned in dispatches before the war ended. He then remained in Germany for a while in the army of occupation, stationed first at Hamelin and then at Kiel.

John Blomfield was born in Calcutta, the son of a civil engineer whose family had lived in India for two generations. He was sent to this country as a small boy to Clifton College from where he won a scholarship to the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, and was commissioned into the Royal Engineers. From Woolwich he went to read for a degree in engineering at Peterhouse, Cambridge.

On returning from Australia in late 1957, he was sent on a short course at the Greenland Administrative Staff College at Henley. Then he was posted for a time to the War Office before taking over the command in 1959 of the 22nd Field Engineer Regi-

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ON THIS DAY

December 22 1910

This was Britain's second worst mining disaster when 350 men and boys were killed.

One woman lost her husband and four sons.

engineers in Lancashire. The party spent about four hours in the pit, and their verdica

must be accepted as final. They explained

when they returned to the surface that they

saw dead bodies in each of the five sections into which the Yard Mine is divided. They went to each of the entrances and outlets of

these sections, and satisfied themselves that

there was no reasonable prospect of any one remaining alive there. Eleven dead bodies were found near the entrance to one of the

sections, and the considerable falls of earth which the party encountered led them to

suppose that many of the men were killed by

action for blind people Rel:17,14-16 Versey Road, London SE16 302. Telephone: 071-732 877: mands stationed.

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DISASTER The shadow of a terrible calumity lies over the West Lancashire coalfield. An explosion occurred in the Presona Pit, about five miles

ar the time of telegraphing, have almost abandoned hope of saving the lives of over 300 of these, and the disaster is certain to rank as one of the most appalling in the annals of British coel mining . . . AR Showcoom wanted for area-tiglow cars. 10 mile Cantral Landon easins, Field serms. Tel Cantral 760326 (1834 61040)

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GREAT MINE

from Bolton, shortly before 8 o'clock this morning, and 342 men and boys are in the workings. Notwithstanding the brave efforts of many rescue parties, the mine authorities,

Night had fallen when the grim news went

round that all hope of saving the men in the Yard Mine part of the Pretoria Pir had been

Yard Mine spart of the Pretoria Pit had been practically given up. "We lear that over 300 lives are lost" was the terrible message which Mr. J. Gerrard, the Chief Inspector of Mines for Lancashire, brought to the arodous watchers at the pit head early this evening after a prolonged examination of the workings. The exploration party, of which Mr. Gerrard was the head, included Mr. Brancker, the managing director of the Pretoria Pit, and many of the leading mining

BOLTON, DEC 21.

can lor she (Mind - Pegatered Cha



COMBATSTRESS

We honour those who gave their fives for our country. But what of those who shared the same horrors and survived ... their

RATIONAL KONEY Research fund 7 42 Lover Watton, Lumbon SE1 7 the subsidence which immediately followed the explosion. The explosion had swept the live sections of the mine from end to end, and had apparently left no loophole for escape. Some of the bodies which Mr. Gerrard found were mutilated to such an extent that they must have been subjected to tremendous force. There were, however, other bodies which bore no marks of violence whatever,

afterdamp which followed the explosion. Today, at the top of the Pretoria Pit, there was nothing unusual except the crawd to be seen after the first few minutes of shooting flame. There was link damage above ground, there was no picture of obstruction: yet the people waited within sight of the shaft all daymost of them will wait all night-silently and patiently. The speciacle of the crowd of waiting relatives and friends of the impris-oned miners was rendered more poignant by the fact that the outcome of their hopes and fears was being resolved out of their sight. The hauling up of the men from the lower levels eased the tension left by those who had hurried to the spot at the first news of the explosion. It was when the bodies of the dead were brought to the surface that the grummest

and this circumstance was taken to indicate that the men had been suffocated by the

THE THE STATE STATE OF

Darwin, a portrait by Peter Greenaway, is idiosyncratic, and stimulating (Ch4. 9pm) Page 31

OPHION -

It would do no harm at all if a Saudi prince, following in the steps

of Mr Major and President Fran-

cois Mitterrand, were seen in Bos-

To the charge of political incompe-

tence, which necessitated a climb-

down two months ago, can now be

added the charge of administrative

Christmas travel blues

Christmas cards are responsible for

a number of misconceptions about

the character of an English Christ-

mas and the kind of weather that

usually accompanies it, but it takes

a hard and unromantic heart to

resist the appeal of the illustration

of the stage coach Page 13

The one thing that no civil servant,

however eminent, can afford to for-

get is that his duty is owed to the

state, not to government that hap-

pens to be in office, still less to any

particular member of it. This is why

some people consider the perma-

nent secretary to the Treasury's

written offer to meet a proportion of

the Chancellor's legal expenses in-

curred in evicting an embarrassing

tenant from his home to be full of

constitutional menace...... Page 12

(from December, 1944)

BUSINESS

11.12

THE ! OUND

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Eughann,

Muslims awake

Coal scuttle

incompetence....

THE TIMES TODAY

Court rules pit closures illegal

■ Michael Heseltine was forced into a new retreat after the High Court declared that his plan to close more than half the nation's coal pits was unlawful. The president of the Board of Trade offered to review the future of the mines.

Lord Justice Glidewell ruled that both the government and British Coal "unlawfully and irrationally" ignored the rights of mineworkers and their unions to be consulted in deciding to shut pits...

54 die in holiday jet crash

More than two hundred people, including three Britons, escaped the fiery crash of a Dutch holiday jet at Faro airport on Portugal's Algarve coast. Fifty-four people died when a wing of a DC-10 touched the ground and burst into flames

Deportees wounded

A barrage of mortar shells and heavy machinegun fire from Israeli troops wounded several of the 415 Palestinians deported by Israel four days ago as they tried to re-enter the Israeli-controlled security zone in south Lebanon . .. Pages 1, 9

Election challenge

Milan Panic called for the annulment of the Serbian presidential elections as the hard-line Slobodan Milosevic swept to victory. But the greatest victor was the Serbian Radical party led by Vojislav Seselj, who was named last week as a possible war ...Pages 1, 8 criminal

Avalanche death

A schoolboy who had almost completed a three mountain climb to raise money for orphans in Romania, died when he was swept 200 ft down Ben Nevis in an avalanche. One of his two companions was taken to hospital by helicopter..... Page 1

M-way pile up

One person died and at least 20 were injured when more than 60 vehicles collided on the M62 yesterday. A tanker caught fire and five people had to be cut free from their vehicles in the ... Pages 1, 4

Mortgage payout

More than 3,200 people with mortgages of about £100,000 are having their interest paid each week by the Department of something that will happen any Social Security. This week it day now ...

emerged that the DSS was paying £1,800 a week to cover the housing costs of a former

inside job

Derek Lewis, former chief executive of the Granada television group who has never set foot inside a prison, is to be the next leader of the prison service with a salary £125,000 a year plus a performance related element of up to 35 per cent Page 3

Lamont stays

John Major firmly ruled out an early cabinet reshuffle making plain that Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, is safe in his job after persistent speculation that he would be moved to a fresh post in January. Mr Lamont is expected to deliver the Budget Page 6

Honourable merit

Plans to reform the honours system will not be as sweeping as many of its critics would have liked. Changes will not be "wholesale or dramatic" because the system "is a proper reflection of merit in our society", the prime minister said Page 6

Russia cashes in

Russia is planning to pump 1,000 billion roubles (£1.53 billion) into the economy this month and may introduce its own currency. Valerian Kulikov, the central bank's deputy chairman, said: "Russia is ready to shift to a national currency,

Woman 'made up' kidnap story

Joanna Grenside, the aerobics teacher who claimed to have been kidnapped and held prisoner for 36 hours, concocted the story of her abduction and was never in danger, according to Hertfordshire police. Miss Grenside could now face prosecution for wasting police time in an investigation which could have cost up to £50,000



Day of triumph: Arthur Scargill, NUM president, welcomes the High Court decision that pit closures were illegal. Pages 1, 2

Markets: Share prices surged to record levels as the FT-SE 100 index closed at 2807.7, an all-time high. Analysts predicts that the market will breach the 3,000 mark early in the New Year. The pound however weakened on foreign exchanges, falling two-fifths of a cent against the dollar to \$1.5635 and

Bomb oover: Michael Heseltine announced that the Government would become the insurer of last resort'against terrorist bomb damage on the British mainland from the end of the year. The insurance industry will still bear some . Page 17

0.15 of a pfennig against the mark

.... Page 17

to DM2.4516

USM to end: The Unlisted Securities Market, the mini stock market which boomed in the 1980s with the launch of familiar names like Sock Shop, Filofax and Body Shop, is to close in 1995...

Flahing: Few books on the sport make a lasting impression from year to year, but The Secret Carp. an atmospheric account of a single day on a carp water by Chris Yates. is a potential classic that breathes a love of water and light..... Page 27.

Football: Graham Taylor, the England manager, reflects on an annus horriblis for his team, his own triumohs and tribulations, and the controversial climax to Gary Linker's international career during the European championship finals in

Greater London Kert, Surrey, Sussitic Dorset Hents & KOW Devon & Comwell Wits, Glouce, Auon, Somi Berlos, Bucles, Oyon

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A REAL WATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road-

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M-ways/roads M1-Darford T

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National traffic and roadw

Midlands

Sitting comfortably? Bob Cratchit. may have had to work long hours, but at least he appears to have been able to do it at a desk and chair that was unlikely to give him backache. Some back experts suggest that a return to the Victorian form of working furniture might lessen the number of working days lost through pain in the neck, shoulders or lower back... ... Page 11

Bottom line: Whether the midwirter solstice is called Saturnalia, Yuletide or Christmas, feasting has always been part of it - and with the feasting comes the alcohol. Dr Thomas Stuttaford on the absorbing topic of the effects and joys of festive tippling.... ... Page 11

Looking up: There are six million words in the New Grove Dictionary of Opera, published this week. Rodney Milnes reports a boom in. opera reference books,..... Page 23 Soap opera: BBC 2 is presenting The Vampyr, a 19th-century opera. in six episodes. Producer Janet Street-Porter aims to give it "the

EastEnders treatment"..... Page 23

Lope's laughs: Madness in Valencia, a comedy by classical Spanish dramatist Lope de Vega, gets a robust production at the Gate Thestre, Notting Hill...... Page 24

Card bewel? Richard Cork looks at * the artistically debased, occasionally obscene fringes of Christmas card design...

The achievements of

Yitzhak Rabin in pre-

face to Israel's neigh-

senting a moderate

bours, lie in tatters

following the Pales-

tinian expulsions

Mainly cloudy over England

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31

FROME

Dick Spring, the Irish

Labour leader, hopes

for six of the 15 cabi-

net seats if his party

coalition with Albert

Reynolds' Fianna Fáil

joins a long-delayed

At play: Toy manufacturers are anxious to know whether their prime-time selling is having the desired effect. . Page 10

on television. Alice Thomson on what to expect Page 10

In the most significant legal proceedings in England this year, Mr Justice Macpherson declined to grant an injunction to stop the general election 48 hours before polling day. David Pannick. QC. looks back at 1992 Page 26

Nick Faldo will begin

the new year as the

to remain at the top

of his profession

Page 28

undisputed world

COLUMNS ANTHONY HOWARD

Selling the Lord: From the beginning of next year, religious groups will be allowed to buy advertising

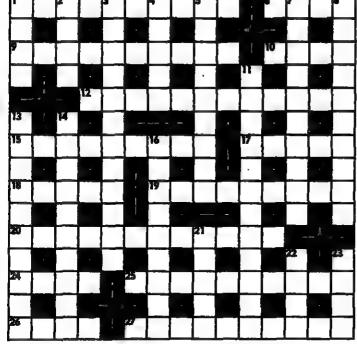
ALAN RYAN

The auraction of paying in benefits is simple: companies deduct health costs as expenses of doing business. and their employees pay no tax on the value of the benefits they receive, and post-retirement health insurance is an attractive addition to a company pension. But it's got out of hand

A former Thames Television chief regards as "farcical" the view that the investment commitment of the sole bidder for the Channel 5 licence was inadequate Page 13

There are stringent laws in this country to protect people if newspapers tell lies about them. Apparently this is not enought for members No. 1 golfer, and with of our political establishment. They want to protect the Great and the Good when the press tells the truth

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,108



ACROSS

- 1 Still without a proposal? (10).
- 6 One resented being at work to get a crust (4).
- 9 Loaded water for use on building site (4-6).
- 10 I can put forward name of old American (4). 12 Difficult to get permanent place
- to park (12).
- 15 Quickly pass to the resolution (4-
- 17 Articulate don't start to talk indistinctly (5).
- 18 It was in Texas, but in the style of Missouri (5). 19 Unrehearsed way for Snug to
- play a lion? (9). 20 Arab doing business by shrew
- bargaining (5-7). 24 The French follow, say, across
- the bar (4).

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- 25 Phone-box out of order? I answer with strange apprehe 26 King finds shelter for artist (4).
- 27 Possible alternative to the op. say

DOWN

- i Transom opened to reveal moon
- 2 Cost of ring (4).
- 3 Being practised, made cocktail
- 4 Landowner set about trespasser at last (5).
- 5 Tender lamb, say, and mint (9). 7 Stain on character the best people wholly lack according to Yeats (10).
- 8 Carry beds from riotous scene
- 11 Work up posh name in snobbish rivalry (3-9).
- 13 Cursorily wash part of body that's over basin (10).
- 14 Paid seller outrageously for footwear (10).
- 16 Hoist 17 by stages (5-4).
- 21 B. I hear, for Bertie Wooster (5).
- 22 No one wounded in memorial
- 23 Quick-tempered, but grow easy in the end (4).

Concise Crossword, page 32

later. Most areas will be dry, except for early drizzle in the South West and showers in the East. Frost and freezing fog in central areas may persist into the afternoon. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be dry, with some sunny spells, although there will be patchy rain at first in southeast Scotland. Outlook mainly dry, with frost and fog at night. Rain in the North West tomorrow.

John Patten wel-

local authorities

comed an improve-

ment in seven-year-

olds' test results but

criticised differences

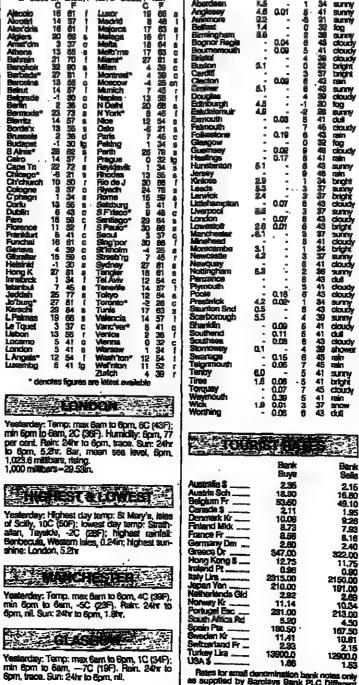
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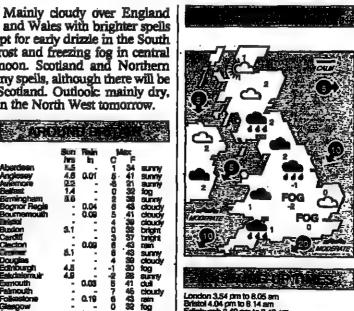
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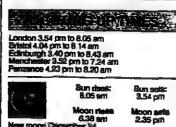
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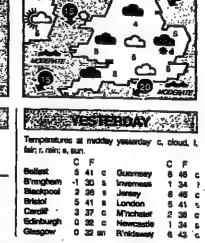




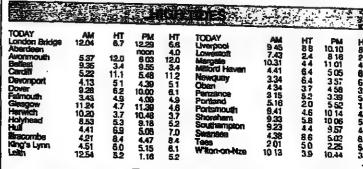




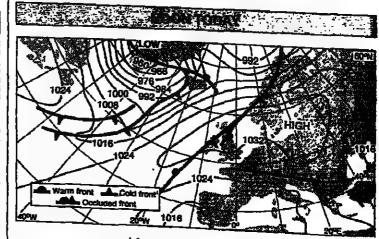




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Tide in metres: tm=3,2608ft



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BUSINESS 17-22

Russia takes the slow route on reform



ARTS 23-25

The vampyr: soap opera opera on the BBC



FOOTBALL 30

Graham Taylor regrets he cannot turn the clock back *TELEVISION* AND RADIO

Scottish

Widows

fined

£120,000

By LINDSAY COOK MONEY KOLTOR SCOTTISH Widows, the life

assurance company, has been fined £120,000 for failing to train and supervise its tied agents properly. It is the largest fine ever imposed by the

Life Assurance and Unit Trust

Regulatory Organisation.

The penalty follows two checks by the regulator on the company, which sold more than £1.5 billion of policies last year. After the first, in spring 1991, Laurro expressed con-

cern about the supervision of

the tied agents who sell only Scottish Widows products. But

a year later the regulator

found that the company "had not taken appropriate action to deal with those concerns".

Lautro has subsequently asked Scottish Widows to check all policies sold by its

tied agents over the four years

from the implementation of

the Financial Services Act.

These checks started in July.

The regulator said: "A firm

should organise and control

its internal affairs in a respon-

sible manner, keeping proper

records, and where the firm

employs staff or is responsible

for the conduct of investment

business by others, should

have adequate arrangements to ensure that they are suit-

able, adequately trained and

properly supervised."

Last month, Mike Ross

Sconish Widows' managing director, resigned from the board of Lautro. Colin Hawtin, senior policy officer at Lautro, said the fine reflected

the seriousness of the breach of

rules. The company would

Newton Scott, general manager, marketing and sales at

Scottish Widows, said the

company had written to 17,000 policyholders asking

them to complete a new

were still being followed up.

"There is very little evidence of

people being sold the wrong policies," he added.

factfind" and some of these

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22 1992

BUSINESS TODAY

MICRO SCOPE

Sala Gale

Sept. See

AM LINES



Microsoft, the world's company, is under fire in America and may face a probe in Britain Page 18

FRENCH IRE

France has again attacked the European negotiating stance on world trade talks Page 18

SLICK OIL



Lasmo raised \$145.5 million from the sale of ssets in the North Sea and Indonesia to reduce borrowings

LAW TIMES



David Pannick reviews the year at the Bar in 1992 - and what a funny old year it has hoos

Page 26

ER POLNO

US dollar 1.5635 (-0.0040) German mark 2.4516 (-0.0015) Exchange index 80.3 (-0.1)

Bank of England official close (4pm) STOCK MARKET.

FT 30 share 2159.7 (+12.1) FT-SE 100 2807.7 (+18.0) New York Dow Jones 3306.25 (7.02)* Tokyo Nikkei Avge 17645.44 (-35.30)

MIESEN SE

London: Bank Base: 7% 3-month Interbank: 7'-7'76 3-month eligible bills: 67 a 67 x % US: Prime Rate: 6%

CHARACTES 3

New York: C: \$1.5645° S: DM1 5885° S: Swift 1.4143" D: FF:5.3500° S: Yen122.96° S: Index: 64.9 E DM2.4518 E: Swfc2.2140 C: FFr8.4550 E: Yen192.37 Index 803 ECU- DIVIS

London Fisheg: AM \$338.35 PM \$333.90 Close \$333.80-334.10 £213.97-214 15 New York: Comex \$ 333,65-334.15*

Brent (Jan) \$18.50/bbl (\$18.50)

RPI: 139.7 November (1987=100)

Heseltine backs down on final bomb liability

THE government is to provide last-resort reinsurance cover against terrorist bomb damage on the British mainland from the year end.

Yesterday's decision, an-nounced by Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, contrasts with earlier govern-ment reluctance to underwrite the cost of terrorism, and comes after determined lobbying from commerce and the

insurance industry.
This year has seen a surge in IRA bomb attacks against commercial targets on the

Mr Heseltine said the decision had been taken because it had become "virtually impossible" for insurers in the UK to obtain reinsurance protection against terrorism-related claims. This meant tens of thousands of firms could have been left without adequate cover against bomb damage when policies run out at the year end. Up to £240 billion worth of property was thought to be at risk. Mr Heseltine

Michael Heseltine has confirmed that the government will become the reinsurer of last resort to cover bomb damage on the British mainland, after industry pressure

um. Some details of the

scheme have yet to be agreed but the additional premiums

charged by insurers will be

pooled in a mutual fund

dedicated to payment of ter-rorism-related claims from commercial and industrial policyholders. The govern-ment has pledged to reinsure the pool, membership of which is voluntary, but insur-ers will continue to bear a

share of the risk. The size of

the additional premium will be paid based on the sum

insured and the location of the

property. Insurers will contin-ue to provide full cover for

domestic risks such as private

homes and cars. Enabling

to Parliament in the new year.

130 claims after April's bomb attack in the City of London

but limited its exposure to a maximum of £15 million. Re-

insurers picked up the balance

gislation will be introduced

Commercial Union paid out

added: "It is the government's objective that its involvement should be of limited duration and cause the minimum interterence necessary with the working of the market. Costs in government should also be kept to a minimum."

Under the terms of a new Association of British Insurers-recommended policy wording, a terrorism damage exclusion clause will be incorporated in policies from January 1, limiting cover to £100,000 in five specific areas of risk — buildings, contents, computers, engineering and business interruption.

However, after the government's announcement, industrial and commercial policyholders will, after all, be able to reinstate their terrorism cover in the new year through payment of a special premi-

Industry welcomes decision with relief

BRITISH industry has wel-comed the government's deci-of last resort will enable our sion to provide a safety net to commercial and industrial caused by terrorist attacks on mainland commercial

property.
The Confederation of British Industry said the decision came as "an enormous relief". A spokesman said: "There was talk of some quite hornific premiums knocking about. It was a matter of very grave concern to all the business community."

Mike Jones, chief executive of the Association of British Insurers, said: "I am pleased we have been able to reach agreement with government on this very sensitive and important area. Government's ism cover when the exclusion wording is introduced."

The Corporation of London, which has direct reponsibility for London's financial district, target of April's IRA bomb attack, had been deeply concerned by the imminent loss of its insurance cover. Michael Cassidy, chairman of the corporation's policy committee, said: "Obviously this is an important safety net for City businesses but there will be a cost to them in

of the cost, estimated at £700 million. Had the new stheme been in force, CU would have paid out a maximum of \$500,000 on each of the policies plus any extra risk that it was willing to take on in re-turn for additional premiums. The government, acting as the

picked up the balance. Officials said the scheme is "totally different" to the one in Northern Ireland where the government has paid compensation in full for any terrorisi damage in excess of £220. Payouts of £616.7 million have been made between 1968 and the end of the financial year 1991-2. Explosions in the province this year seem likely to push the total to about £670 million, but this

has been exceeded by the increased premiums. We feel estimated £800 million cost of there should be an across-thethe City bombing. board increase in premiums to cover this risk." ESSEX Man is spending

By Michael Clark and Janet Bush

Share prices soar to record

IT LOOKS like being a very merry Christmas and prosperous new year for City investors, with share prices on the London stock market surging

to a record high.
The FT-SE 100 index recovered from a hesitant start yesterday to extend Friday's impressive gains and close up 18.0 at 2,807.7. The index has risen almost 13 per cent this year. Turnover was not as high as Friday's near-one billion, but even so a healthy 831 million shares were

Government securities, how ever, drifted lower across the board through lack of support. Institutional investors have been enjoying healthy returns on bonds, with the gilt market

By PHILIP PANGALOS

ENTREPRENEURS seeking

a stock market listing for their

"smaller" companies will

The London Stock Ex-

change confirmed yesterday

that, following a review, it has

issued a consultative docu-

ment recommending the clo-

sure of the Unlisted Securities

Market. If accepted, no new

entrants will be allowed from

June 30 next year and the

Stock Exchange plans to make it easier for USM

companies to transfer to the

unexpected. John Houlihan of

Hoare Govett's smaller com-

panies team, said: "It's a

main market.

soon have to look elsewhere.

staging something of a revival on the back of the recession and the government's funding

Britain registered a tiny rise in gross domestic product growth during the third quarter but this was entirely due to a large gain in North Sea oil and gas production as summer maintenance shutdowns came to an end. Overall GDP rose 0.1 per cent in the third quarter, according to revised government statistics.

However, GDP excluding oil and gas, which is the more accurate measure of economic activity, dropped 0.2 per cent. That was 0.7 per cent below the level of output in the third quarter last year and 4

Moore: early market star

relief. We all knew the body

was about to be embalmed. It

was a case of whether the

Stock Exchange would give it

a decent funeral. They are

USM prepares for final quotation

going to make it very easy for . ers, such as Sock Shop and

per cent below the last economic peak in 1990. The fall of 0.2 per cent in the third quarter more than reversed the marginal gain of 0.1 per cent in the second quarter and means that non-oil GDP has fallen in eight out of the last

A Treasury spokesman acknowledged that the figures were disappointing but noted that the third quarter had almost finished by the time Britain came out of the European exchange-rate mechanism and monetary policy was eased. However, he pointed to more hopeful signs of a revival in economic activity during the fourth quarter.

Stock market, page 20

companies to join the full list... if you join the USM you've got to be fit enough to go to a full listing."

about 300 quoted firms,

against a peak of 448 in 1989.

Of the 857 companies that

have been quoted, 209 have

transfered to a full fisting, 200

have been acquired or are

under offer and 128 have

the USM tas handled some

famous names. These include

Debbie Moore of Pineapple

Dance Studios, Aspinalls casi-nos, British Island Airways.

Mrs Fields, Chelsea Man and Airbreak Leisure - one of the

most recent casualties. Oth-

Since its birth in late 1980.

been removed

USM contently has



Christmas spree for **Essex Man**

again. As Christmas looms, the £350 million Thurrock Lakeside shopping centre, just off the M25 to the east of London, is pulling in the crowds (Jon Ashworth writes).

Sales are up 68 per cent at the 500-acre site compared with two years ago and up to 350,000 people are visiting Lakeside each week in the run-up to Christmas. Lakeside is owned by Capital & Counties, a property firm ultimately controlled by Liberty Life, the

Things did not go well when the centre opened in October 1990. House of Fraser was gutted by fire and had to close for nearly a year and Lewis's department store went into receivership three months after the opening.
Today, there is more than

enough to make up for such mishaps, with 320 shops, a cinema, a play area and parking for 9,000 cars.

Body Shop, started on the USM, while the market still

includes big names such as

deputy chairman, said: "The

USM was a very successful

raising capital in the 1980's.

Our research shows it is no

longer fulfilling that role and we have therefore looked at

all the options available for

The number of companies

joining the USM has dwin-dled in the 1990s with just

three joining last year and two more this. In 1990 the

requirements for joining the full market were eased, reduc-

ing the attraction of joining

the future of the market."

Asprey and Filofax. Ian Salter, Stock Exchan

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OFT to study Microsoft licensing deals in UK

Microsoft rejects claims that it used its 95 per cent market share to price out potential rivals. It may face sanctions in America and Britain

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

mission is understood to be

drawing up a list of recommendations that could include the break-up of the company.

A decision to move against the

company in America is thought likely to heighten

pressure for a full OFT investigation of its UK deals. Microsoft says it has done

nothing wrong, continues to co-operate with the American

investigation, but refuses to

speculate on what action the

The issue is politically sensitive. President-elect Bill Clin-

ton, glowing from a successful

economic conference dealing

with policies to create jobs and

improve American competiti-

veness, is anxious to ensure an

edge for the US in the global

high-technology market. How-

ever, analysts say he will not

In barely 20 years, Micro-

soft has been grown by its founder, William Gates 111,

into the world's largest soft-

ware maker. At almost

\$25 billion, its stock market

value is bigger than General

Motors' and \$2 billion dollars short of IBM, the battered

in the process Mr Gates has

become America's richest man

with a net worth estimated at

\$6.3 billion, mostly in Micro-

soft shares. He is also one of

the world's 12 richest people.
Claims against Microsoft include that it gives a 60 per

cent discount on its system on

each computer a manufactur-

er sells, an offer companies

find hard to refuse. Investiga-

tors say the deals shut out

other software makers. Some

rivals, Novell, Borland Inter-

national and Lotus Develop-

condone monopolies.

computer giant.

federal watchdog may take.

THE Office of Fair Trading (OFT) is assessing a complaint against Microsoft, the world's largest computer-software maker, whose founder is now the richest man in America. OFT officials are consider-

ing investigating the compa-ny's practices after it offered an American-style licensing deal to some UK computer makers. The deal is alleged to be a replica of agreements investi-gated for 30 months by the US Federal Trade Commission, which found that Microsoft. with its dominant MS-DOS computer-disc operating system, engaged in anti-competi-tive behaviour and used its 95 per cent market share to price out rivals.

The OFT said it had received a complaint from a Microsoft customer. However, it has up to 60 cases on its books at any one time and only a few of these may develop into full-scale investigations.

The Federal Trade Com-

US firm cannot end Canary lease

Bear Stearns International, American investment bank, has lost a legal battle to end its lease at Canary Whari, the insolvent office complex built by Olympia & York Developments in London's Docklands.

Bear Stearns asked the High Court to rule its Canary Wharf lease was no longer valid because of a breach of contract. But Justice Morrit said: "In my judgment, there was no repudiation ... which BSI could accept so as to discharge it from further perlease and I so declare."

A spokesman for Ernst & Young, administrator to Ca-nary Wharf, welcomed the ruling and looked forward to working with Bear Stearns.

Earlier this year, American Express and Chemical Bank pulled out of contracted moves to Canary Wharf.

OIS returns to market

OIS International Inspection. the technical inspection services group, is effectively re-turning to the stock market with a £15 million placing. The company was last listed on the Unlisted Securities Market in the summer of 1991, when it was known as Brompton Holdings.

It lost its place on the USM, which it first gained in 1982 as OIS Group, after Adia, the Swiss employment services group that owns Alfred Marks, bought the remaining 41 per cent of Brompton Holdings it did not already own. OIS returns to the market after a new holding company was set up to buy a group of firms operating under the OIS name from Adia for about E10.8 million. About 30 million OIS shares were priced at 50p each, capitalising the group at about £15 million. Dealings are due to start on December 30.

Chieftain warning

Chieftain Group, the fire protection specialist, gave a warning that full-year pre-tax profits would fall by about £450,000 to approximately £600,000. This came on the back of the continued recession hitting the group's mar-kets, and the absence of tangible evidence of the upturn hoped for in the second half. A final dividend of 3p a

share is expected, increasing the total to 5.1p (4.9p).

Exploration falls

Exploration and appraisal of new oilfields in the North Sea will fall further in 1993, according to a report by consultants at Arthur Andersen. It said oil companies would be deterred from new projects by commitments to existing projects, and by the costs of recent investment in the former Soviet Union.



Under attack in Britain and US: William Gates, the founder of Microsoft

French reopen trade attack

By Colin Narbrough, world trade correspondent

FRANCE delivered a fierce attack on the European Commission's stance at the world trade talks only hours after Brussels and Washington for-mally told Arthur Dunkel, director-general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), that they want negotiations successfully concluded by mid-January. Roland Dumas, the French

ment, are believed to be considering joint legal action. foreign minister, called last For the year to June, month's EC agreement with America on agricultural subsi-dies a "tragic mistake". Microsoft's net profit jumped 53 per cent to \$708 million During a Community for-

while Borland announced job eign ministers' meeting in cuts, and Lotus saw its market share shrink further. Brussels, he said the commisby submitting Community commitments to world trade negotiations. France claims the transatiantic deal exceeds the subsidy cuts agreed in the latest reform of the EC common agricultural policy.

Despite the French protests President Bush, John Major and Jacques Delors, the Commission president, confirmed. in a message to Mr Dunkel their agreement that the Gatt negotiations should be speeded up urgently. The aim should be to conclude a baianced and comprehensive agreement by the middle of

sion had violated its mandate January," it said. The trade round's steering committee meets on January 15.

The leaders called on negotlators to finalise texts of agreements in all areas of the trade liberalisation round, to complete the outstanding negotiations on market access and services, and to determine the institutional structure that will govern both existing and

new agreements.

Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Poland signed an agreement to remove duties on industrial and agricultural goods. The pact will remove obstacles to trade by 2001.

Lasmo sales raise \$145m

LASMO, the oil group, yesterday raised \$145.5 million from sales of assets in the North Sea and Indonesia, which analysts said would reduce borrowings from 71 to 63 per cent of shareholders' funds. The shares rose 9p to 151p in response:

The company has further disposals in the pipeline but also has to finance development spending next year.

Added to the \$1.1 billion

Lasmo took in from selling Ultramar's refining and marketing business this year and \$398 million of upstream oilexploration assets, Lasmo has made sales of \$1,528 million.

Analysts are still concerned about the final dividend. At the half-year stage Lasmo maintained its payout, but said the full-year payment would depend on the sterling oil price. At the time it was £10.33 a barrel; yesterday it was £1 1.80. Chris Greentree, Lasmo chief executive, said: "These

disposals, together with fur-ther transactions planned for next year, form part of our continuing asset management programme, which will reduce gearing and realise value from peripheral assets. In 1993 we will be concentrating our investment programme on core exploration and development projects which have significant added value poten-tial." He added that since acquiring Ultramar one year ago, Lasmo had exceeded its 1992 upstream disposal targets with sales of more than \$1.5 billion.

Yesterday's disposals included an 8.52 per cent interest in the North Sea's T-block, which contains the Tiffany, Toni and Thelma fields, to a subsidiary of Murphy Oil for \$100 million. The T-block transaction is subject to preemption rights of partners.

Lasmo has also agreed to sell 23.41 per cent and 14.7 per cent interests in North Sea blocks 22/27a and 29/2a to Enterprise Oil for £15.2 million. Both transactions are subject to Department of.

Trade and partner approval. Lasmo has also sold a minor interest in the Dutch block K9 to a Goal Petroleum subsidi-ary for £2.2 million. In Indonesia Lasmo has agreed to sell its 3.72 per cent interest in the southeast Sumatra production-sharing contract to Itochu Corporation of Japan for \$19.5 million.

SEPLEMESS ROUNDUP

Culver makes all-share bid for DG Durham

CULVER Holdings, the year-old motors group, is buying the insurance businesses from DG Durham, the troubled Lloyd's insurance broker, and bidding for the rest of the group. The complex deal has been organised by three directors of both Culver and Durham including John Biles, who owns 51 per cent of Durham and 27.1 per cent of Culver.
Culver is paying £62,000 and up to £1.4 million later for

DG Durham Insurance Holdings, which in turn owns a tra-vel insurance broker, a life and pension broker and a claims agency. The cash will enable Durham to repay bank loans. Culver is also launching an all-share bid for a minority stake in Durham, which has been laid low by legal actions against its Lloyd's insurance broker. The group made a loss of £4.7 million for the 15 months to end-March and sank to net liabilities of £2.3 million. The banks threatened to call in loans, which would have put the company into receivership.

Nomura cuts salaries

NOMURA Securities, Japan's largest broker, has demoted or cut the pay for its three top officials associated with the sale of real estate-backed US bonds without adequate explanation of the risks to investors. Nomura said it would buy back the bonds for 23 billion yen (£118 million) — the original price plus interest — after admitting that it sold them improperly to more than 14,000 investors in 1989 and 1990. Nomura said that Atsushi Saim, executive director, had been demoted to that Atsushi Saito, executive director, had been demoted to managing director, while Hideo Sakamaki, the president, had taken a 20 per cent cut in pay, and Tadashi Takubo, executive director, had taken a 10 per cent pay reduction — in

JIB buys Pulford

JIB Group, the international insurance broker ultimately owned by Jardine Matheson Holdings, the Hong Kongbased trading company, is paying up to £6.5 million to buy Pulford Winstone and Tennant, a Lloyd's broker specialising in marine liability. The deal, struck through its subsidiary, JIB International Holdings, is due to be finalised on January 6. On completion, JIB will pay £650,000 in cash with a further £1.5 million to follow within one month. Further consideration of up to £4.35 million in loan notes will be consideration of up to £4.35 million in ioan notes will be payable if certain revenue targets are met in 1993 and 1994. JIB shares rose 1p to 153p.

Lucas to sell division

LUCAS Industries, the car-to-aerospace-components manufacturer, is in the process of selling its fluid-power-distribution business for an undisclosed sum to Sophus Berendsen, a Danish power distribution group. Lucas Fluid Power Systems employs almost 1.000 people worldwide and has annual sales in excess of £100 million. The sale forms part of a restructuring programme under which four businesses would be sold to raise about £100 million. Lucas Fluid Power Systems is the largest of those. Other businesses earmarked for sale include Autocentres in Britain, a missile-casing manufacturer and the aircraft-transparency operation.

Plantsbrook deal

PLANTSBROOK Group, the funeral services company formerly known as PFG Hodgson Kenyon, is buying Porland Funeral Services for £790,000. Porland, based in Kilmarnock, Strathclyde, carries out 560 funerals a year. The acquisition is being funded from the proceeds of a placing of 3.38 million Plantsbrook shares, raising about £2 million. Plantsbrook said negotiations leading to a second acquisition of a simpler size were at an advanced stage and an of a similar size were at an advanced stage red an announcement was expected soon. Plantsbrook shares rose

Shandwick bank pact

SHANDWICK, one of the world's leading public relations groups, has signed an agreement with its banks extending its worldwide banking facilities until the end of January 1994. Facilities available in sterling and foreign currencies amount to £69 million at current exchange rates. The group had previously negotiated banking facilities totalling £65 million until March 1992. Net debt is expected to peak at about £63 million at the end of the month. Shandwick expanded hard during the 1980s and has spent the past 18 months slimming down. The shares rose from 8p to 9½p.

Midlands boosted

IMPROVEMENTS in business confidence in the Midlands, with more companies expecting an increase in turnover next year, are revealed in the latest economic survey. While recovery is not in full flight, manufacturing and service companies believe they may be approaching an economic numround, according to the survey for the Birmingham Chamber of Industry and Commerce. The survey suggests the state of the survey and companies better the survey suggests the state of the survey suggests the state of the survey suggests the state of the survey suggests. the past six months have shown a slow but steady gain for business in the region. But while companies expect to see turnover rise in the coming year, it will be on tight margins.

Faupel pegs payout

FAUPEL Trading Group, the Far East trader whose shares are listed in London, held profits almost unchanged at £631.000 before tax in the half year to end-September, against £611.000 in the previous interim period, despite difficult trading conditions. Earnings were unchanged at 5.19p a share and the interim dividend is maintained at 1.85p. Turnover rose from £12.08 million to £13.92 million, although operating profits were almost unchanged at £1 million, against £1.01 million. No recovery is expected in the second half.

French steel chief defends job cuts

By Our World Trade Correspondent

FRANCIS Mer, chairman of Usinor-Sacilor, the French state-owned steel group facing government resistance to its plan to shed thousands of jobs. rejected accusations that he is overly pessimistic and said the outlook for steel is the worst he

Critics of the company's plans to axe a further 2,500 jobs by 1995, on top of the 8,000 previously armounced, have argued that Usinor-Sacilor has based its streamlining programme on unduly gloomy assumptions about the steel market.

Dominique Strauss-Kahn. the French industry minister. made clear last week that the government, deeply con-cerned about high unemployment, does not support the proposed job-shedding in steel. But the dire state of the European steel industry was put into sharp focus this month when Klöckner, a leading private-sector steelmaker in Germany, was forced to seek protection from its credi-

M Mer said the industry was at the "bottom of a deep hole", with prices and volume sales falling at the same time. West European producers faced increasing competition from imports from eastern Europe, while America was putting up the shutters to imports from Europe, he said. The latest figures from the

International Iron and Steel Institute yesterday underlined M Mer's view. They showed that western Europe led the decline in world crude steel output, with the region's production in November at just 12.2 million tonnes, a fall of 11.3 per cent from November last year. Output in the industrialised world was down 4.6 per cent. Total production for the first 11 months this

year was down 3.1 per cent.

Earnings rise 19% at Ivory

By Neil Bennett BANKING CORRESPONDENT

IVORY & Sime, the Edinburgh fund manager, boosted its earnings per share 19 per cent to 4.94p in the six months to end-October after buying in 2.25 million of its shares this summer and cancelling them. Pre-tax profits rose a more modest 9 per cent to £2.27 million. A rise in interest income and a fall in costs helped the group overcome a £300,000 fail in revenue as Ivory's funds under management remained almost static

The rise in earnings has prompted the company to increase its interim dividend 40 per cent to 1.75p. The size of the increase is intended to reduce the imbalance between the interim and final dividends. Ivory said it planned to pay a minimum 4.5p final dividend, to make 6.25p for the year, up 9 per cent.

at £2.95 million.

Courtaulds Textiles given pension rebate

By Graham Searjeant, financial editor

TRUSTEES of the Courtaulds Textiles pension fund, one of the best funded in the country. have approved a repayment to the company of about £32 million, equivalent to £19 million after tax. The repayment is accompanied by improvements in pension benefits costing £15 million.

The agreement brings the surplus in the fund, on the conservative government actu-ary's assumptions, down to 5 per cent, the maximum allowed without incurring tax penalties. The surplus is still more than £16 million on the company's assumptions and more than £50 million on standard

accounting calculations.

The repayment required a nine-to-two majority of the fund's trustees and therefore a majority of elected trustees. Men or women are already entitled to retire on full pen-sion at 60 and, with the

Courtaulds Textiles demerged from Courtsulds in 1990, starting with no existing pensioners to absorb any surplus in higher benefits. Those retiring since have gained real increases in pensions and are guaranteed indexation up to 1995. Deferred pensions have also been indexed to inflation.

Under accounting rules, the repayment will cut Courtaulds borrowings. The interest bene-fit will be slightly less in future years than the reduction in the notional credit to profits from overfunding. The shares rose

10p to 554p.
Martin Taylor, the chief executive, said: This agreement allows us to use what was, in effect, dead money for the benefit of the shareholders, the scheme members and our pensioners. We already had an excellent pension scheme; it is now even better."

Comment, page 19

TENNIS ...

Cyclical shares still waiting for their turn in market spotlight



Competition: Sir Paul Girolami, Glaxo chairman, is facing fiercer rivalry

WITH the FT-SE 100 share index hovering around its alltime high yesterday, it is tempting to suggest that investors believe recovery is just around the corner.

Were this to be the case, the big City fund managers would start switching away from the safe stocks, such as food. utilities and healthcare, into cyclical shares such as builders and manufacturers. That is not yet obvious. The closest the market has come yet to demonstrating a belief in recovery has been the recent mark-up of medium-sized companies or second-line stocks as fund managers scour around for possible recovery plays.

Share price peaks reflect mainly the fall in interest rates. The City is still healthily sceptical on hopes for economic recovery. Some big industrialists, such as Lord Weinstock and Sir Antony Pilkington, say things have stopped getting worse and that they can see the odd glimmer, but there is little hard statistical evidence yet. That will be needed before fund managers begin to bet on a recovery again. There have been two false dawns already, in the second quarter of this year and in the first quarter of 1991, when investors forsook defensive shares for the sake of more exposure to recovery in the cyclical

What happens when the market believes in recovery can be seen from the rises in shares with exposure to the American market.

They have found favour beyond the devaluation effect because it is more certain that recession there is fading. In contrast to the final GDP figure for Britain's third quarter yesterday showing a 0.2 per cent fall in the non-oil

grown for four quarters in a row. Fund managers are also drawn to shares with American exposure by the dollar, which is expected to strengthen further against the pound in the coming year. All this seems to have worked very neatly against what would appear to be two core defensive stocks, Glaxo and Wellcome. Health stocks are supposed to be good for suffered giddiness in the past

economy compared with the

investors in recession, but Glaxo shareholders will have few days and Wellcome shareholders are getting over depression caused by the Trust reducing its stake.

Both companies will lose their attractions as defensive shares in economic recovery. and both will suffer from low earnings in dollar terms, even

sales in sterling terms. Brokers suggest that Glaxo's newer drugs are not selling as well as previously thought and Astra, Glaxo's Swedish second quarter, America has rival, gave a strong presenta-tion recently on Losec, the rival ulcer drug to Zantac, At the full-year results in September. Glaxo emphasised that while Zantac was still growing 9 per cent of sales came from three new drugs Zofran, an anti-nauseant, Serevent an asthma drug. and Imigran, a treatment for migraine.

Analysts are looking for £1.49 billion pre-tax profit in the current year from Glano compared with £1.43 billion in the year to June 1992, leaving earnings of 40p a share and putting the shares on a multiple of 194. On dividend forecasts of 18p a share. Glaxo is yielding a prospective 3.1 per cent but its rating says nothing about the market as a whole.

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Counting the cost of terrorism

overnment was right to be wary of taking over the liability to make good damage from terrorist bombs. On top of a proper reluctance to accept new and open-ended commit-ments on behalf of taxpayers, ministers knew that any concession would also be seen by the terrorists as an encouraging victory, giving them the added incentive that bombs hurt the hated British government as well as "innocent" people. In the end, the damage to business and industrial confidence from losing insurance cover was a much greater threat and realism dictated state help.

The mechanism chosen seems extraordinarily complicated. What the insurance industry really needed was disaster reinsurance on the pattern used for storms and floods. Such arrangements limit any insurer's exposure to a single event such as the City bomb that devastated the Commercial Union building and the Baltic Exchange, which may in total cost more than £700 million. The disappearance of all commercial reinsurance and the involvement of officialdom probably made something more formal inevitable and even necessary. The ensuing scheme, though still lacking some details, passes the most critical test of keeping insurance on an essentially commercial and conventional basis.

Commercial insurers will still cover household risk and basic small commercial risks up to a theoretical combined limit of £500,000 per claim under five separate headings. This should also provide the basis for assessing the larger risks. Unfortunately, premiums on these larger risks will go into a pool, leaving the industry bearing some risk but the government acting as the ultimate reinsurer. This appears to dent the normal commercial incentives. though it is hard to imagine any company foolish

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enough to chase the market aggressively.

The message is that disorder adds to costs, as businesses forced to pay premiums for premises in sensitive areas will discover. That message is not confined to terrorism. Much of the statistical rises in national income go on security devices, higher insurance premiums and other mundane spending, which are needed to combat the fear of crime but add nothing to the standard of living.

Christmas stocking

xamples of scandal, meanness and ruthless employers are not the only cases relevant to the debate on pensions. The agreement reached by Courtaulds Textiles and the trustees of its pension fund seem to show that repayments of pension fund money to an employer can be perfectly justified. Admittedly, this is an unusual case. The old Courtaulds, which had a well-established and soundly managed fund, used surpluses to upgrade benefits to decent levels from the mid-Seventies. When Courtaulds Textiles was demerged, it did not take any pensioners with it. Continuing surpluses from investment returns and from sharp cuts in the workforce were spread over a relatively narrow base. Benefits have already been upgraded. When the time came to reduce the £59 million official surplus to the Inland Revenue limit this year, the company could reasonably ask for cash instead of notional credits to its profits that helped no one.

In such circumstances, the critical question is who decides. Courtaulds Textiles, though a newly independent company, had a proper old-fashioned structure. The company does have a bare majority of appointees on the board of trustees but rightly required a nine to two majority for a repayment. How different it would have been, or at least looked, if there had been little or no effective employee voice. Even in an honest, well-run pension scheme, the powers and make-up of the board of trustees are vital.

Russia rejects shock therapy for life in the economic slow lane

"I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma; but perhaps there is a key. That key is Russian national interest."

udging by the western re-sponse, the emergence of Viktor Chernomyrdin, a former communist apparatchik, as Russia's new prime minister was an unpleasant surprise. But what about the national interest? Whether the changeover from a reformist to a "populist" government is really as catastrophic as has been suggested depends where you stand and who pays your income. The economic radicals and the army of well-recognition of the composite o remunerated western economic advisers predictably regard the slow-down in reform as the path to Armageddon or, worse, as a return to the old centrally planned economy. The history of economic reform

throughout the world does not necessarily support this rather simplistic view. Speed by itself has not proved a guarantee of success. What we do know is that Russians have lost the zeal of the recently converted, which so characterised the government of Yegor Gaidar, the radical former acting prime minister. This was to be

expected sooner or later.
We also know that Russians no longer regard the maxim "if it isn't hurting, it isn't working", as an appropriate way to reform a highly bidustrialised nation.

John Major's maxim suffered a bad year all over the world. In eastern Europe and much of the Third World, the economic philosophy corresponding to this unfortunate expression is "shock therapy", which signifies a policy to achieve the free market infrastructure in the shortest possible time. As a means of economic reform, shock therapy has been applied in many parts of the world, mostly in return for financial assistance by the International Monetary Fund. Its track record is miserable.

The change of Russian prime minister was, therefore, more important in a negative than in a positive sense, more important in what it rejected than what it accepted.

Unlike his predecessor, the academic Mr Gaidar, Mr Chernomyrdin is not an economist, and he has yet to formulate a coherent economic strategy beyond his ambivalent endorsement of "the market but the por the bazaar". In contrast, Mr Galdar was the archetypal radical, although he had already gone softer several months ago, amid increasing political pressures.

His political demise coincides with the demise of the policies he stood for. At the beginning of the reform process, east Europeans had embraced radical reform as the policy most remote from central planning. When the going got tough, radical-ism was dropped in favour of gradualism. The Russian Congre last week, did only what the Polish electorate did a year earlier.

The essential difference between radicals and gradualists does not lie



in the principal willingness to embrace a western-style market system but in a different perception of the behaviour of markets under extreme conditions. The main point of controversy relates, therefore, to how well an economy adjusts to shocks in demand

One could suspect more fundamental differences, such as the ultimate goal of reform. In general, it is true that radicals prefer the liberal Anglo-Saxon type of market economy, while gradualists have set their eyes on the more corporatist continental-European model.

In the meantime, what matters much more is that the radical reformers have a far greater confidence in the power of the markets. not only in principle, but also in the specific case of markets under transition. They concede that by introducing the essential parameters of a freemarket economy - free prices, an internally convertible exchange rate, and the phasing-out of subsidies an orderly market does not come about overnight, and that the "real" economy will still lag behind for a

They differ from the gradualists in their belief that the market itself can provide the solution. The key to the market-led solution is fast and comprehensive privatisation. The fastest method of them all, adopted by the former government, is voucher privatisation. Vouchers entitle Russians to buy a direct stake in industry through a lottery-like process. They can sell their shares or they can exercise pressure on companies as shareholders. In any case, with the help of efficient capital markets, the right kind of companies should, in the end, attract the right kind of capital.

o much for the theory. This still leaves the problem of transitional siump, and that is where western assistance comes in. Enter the IMF, and the ensuing stabilisation policies. In Russia's case, the result was stagilation: a monthly inflation rate of 25 per cent combined with an annual fall in output of 20 per cent. What the radicals forgot to say when they took power was the capitalist experiment would begin with a 1930s Americanstyle depression, combined with 1920s German-style inflation.

The two great uncertainties about this approach are the time lag, its length and economic impact, and the risk of market failure. The two are related: the greater the length and impact of the time lag, the greater the risk of market failure. These conditions vary from industry to industry and from market to market, but they have one cause in common - volatility. If production is unstable, if there is political and regulatory uncertainty, if there is a breakdown in law and order, and if there is hyperinflation, free markets are prone to all sorts of abnormal behaviour, such as hoarding or corruption.

Gradualists argue that the two inherent weaknesses of time lag and the risk of market failure need to be accommodated within an overall economic strategy. This has two practical consequences. Macrostabilisation policies, while still necessarv, will have to be conducted with a clearly defined social constraint, recognising that no reform can succeed without sufficient popular support. This could involve a maximum acceptable rate of unemployment or maximum permissible fall in industrial output.

The gradualists' policy also requires greater emphasis on the establishment of functioning market institutions and a legal framework,

important prerequisites for the order-ly operation of a free market. In the West, such frameworks have evolved over time in the East, they had to be introduced overnight. The rise of the Mafia in Russia is testimony to the failure of some of these institutions.

The second important aspect of a gradualist policy is reconstruction. Here, the gradualists will be at their most interventionist. In Russia, the priorities for government-led restruc-turing are the massive military sector, the energy sector, especially the 24 decrepit nuclear power stations, and food production and distribution. Most important of all is that the

restructuring of the physical economy must go hand-in-hand with market liberalisation. In this case, free mar-kets are not so much the catalyst for change as the end product of change. This shift in perspective also has important implications for privatisa-tion. Under such a system, the need for fast-track privatisation is greatly reduced. Poland may serve as an example. There, mass privatisation goes hand-in-hand with a so-called sectoral approach, in which govern-ment is actively involved in the reorganisation of the sector. This could mean reshuffling companies within a sector and closing loss makers. The remaining companies are restored to a greater level of profitability. This is followed by part sale of businesses to foreign investors, managers and employees, while the government retains a minority stake.

ontrast this with the voucher privatisation system or other fast-track approaches, which all involve selling loss-making companies. In the ab-sence of efficient capital markets, the privatisation of loss makers through vouchers will almost certainly fail to achieve a correct allocation of capital. Voucher schemes also provide extensive scope for fraud.

The history of fast-track privatisation has not been encouraging. In Germany, the Treuhand privatisation agency has been a great disappointment. Industrial output in the former East Germany has plummeted. The mechanism suffered massive fraud, estimated at DM3 billion. West German industrialists have frequently abused the Treuhand mechanism in order to close down east German competitors, even if these companies might otherwise have been viable. Russia could suffer from a similar conspiracy. But most inexcusable of all, is that

the shock-therapy economists have raised false expectations. They have greatly underestimated the time of the transition process in countries with no history of capitalism, and the economic slump that can result from such a transititon.

The rejection of radicalism does not mean a rejection of a free-market economy. It means that the process will not happen overnight, nor will it happen via vouchers, via the Mafia or

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Christmas cheer at Docklands

IF the number of telephone calls being made to the visitor office of the London Docklands Development Corpora-tion is anything to go by, then the property market could at last be showing the first tentative signs of recovery. Incorporated into the 1.200 or so Christmas cards sent out by Michael Pickard, LDDC chairman, and his colleagues are two versions of The Twelve Days of Christmas, one entitled The Knocker, with references to nylon turtleneck jumpers and French language tapes, and the other entitled The Docker, which refers to "a pair of tickets in a pear tree". Pickard explains: "It follows on from our advertising campaign which separated the 'knockers' - those who are hostile towards Docklands from the 'dockers', who are supportive of it." According to small print on the back of the card, recipents are entitled to two free tickets for the twohour coach tour of Docklands. normal price £6 each. "We have had loads of calls, 30 or 40 already," said a hardpressed woman in the visitor centre. "They started the day after the first cards were posted." Pickard, meanwhile, reports that interest in other areas under LDDC control have also been attracting renewed interest, with 100,000 sq ft of office space let in the past three months, Texaco and Crédit Suisse due to move 3,000 employees into Canary Wharf in the first half of 1993,

and a small but noticeable

increase in activity in the



"I somehow don't think the legal department will be throwing a party this year

residential market. "There's definitely more optimism," says Pickard. "Six months ago everything looked pretty

On the grapevine THE Scottish grapevine has been buzzing with erroneous talk that Gilmour Thom, a director at Bell Lawrie White. the leading Edinburgh broker, had been suspended on full pay after plotting to move the entire institutional team to a rival firm. Calls to Edinburgh have established that Thom is "away on holiday" until the new year, leaving Colin Telfer, a fellow director. to deny that anything is awry. "He's not been talking to anyone," says Telfer, while admitting the rumours have caused "a wee bit of trouble" in the last few days. "We'll get to the bottom of this yet," he promises. Roderick Sutherland & Parmers, the small Scottish broker said to be the rival in

question, refuses to comment. "We are like Cazenove," a spokesman says. "We do not talk to the press."

IS there a Turkish bond mar-

ket? Swiss Bank Corporation

Turkish haggle

says no, but Terence Prideaux, a director of Kemper Investment Management, says yes, and a case of champagne rests on it. In a competition held by SBC, Prideaux predicted that Turkey's bonds would be star performers in 1992. So they have proved, with yields of 70 per cent, but SBC is disputing Prideaux's claim to the prize on the grounds that Turkey has no bond market. "It's a complete slight on the Turkish nation," says Prideaux. "Turkey has weekly bond markets. The fact that the gains are all but wiped out by 60 per cent inflation is neither here nor there." SBC disagrees, claiming that since neither JP Morgan nor Salomon Brothers include Turkey in their bond indices, it is awarding the champagne prize to Karen Catley, a fund manager at Legal & General. She forecast that UK bonds would perform

WHEN The Guardian reported interims from South Wales Electricity, it offered what it claimed was the Welsh version of the company's name as an alternative: "Datganiad i'r Wasg or South Wales Electricity." The only problem is that "Datganiad i'r Wasg" is actually Welsh for "press release," while the correct translation of the company's name is, in fact, Trydan De Cymru.

Gas break-up vital for competition From Professor Colin rai gas in the 1960s. But, so

Sir, Sir James McKinnon's suggestion that British Gas should be broken up and, in particular, that there should be an independent gas pipeline and storage system has been greeted with surprise. Yet the proposal seems entirely sensible if competition in the

gas market is to develop. In 1985, before gas privatisation, we proposed to the Commons energy committee a structure for the privatised eas industry consistent with the proposal now made by Sir James. It still seems appropriate. The industry would consist of a number of local or regional gas-distribution com-panies (either regulated or franchised) and a separate pipeline company (either publicly or privately regulated or franchised). Gas production (unregulated) would be in the

as one unit (including the pipeline network) was a serious mistake. Adoption of the separate pipeline proposal is its attempt to realise benefits for consumers from a poorly devised privatisation scheme. Yours faithfully, hands of private companies, as it has been since the first discoveries of North Sea natu-

Watchdog's recommendations welcomed

University of Surrey. Guildford, and Editorial Director, Institute of Economic Affairs.

COLIN ROBINSON,

Professor of Economics,

that the producing companies

(and gas importers) can compete to supply the British market, an independent pipe-

line system is required to

provide direct access to larger

consumers and indirect access

(via local distributors) to small-

er consumers: eventually, even

smaller consumers may have a

choice of supplier. A pipeline

owned by one of the players

has no part in a competitive

Privatisation of British Gas

ential if Ofgas is to continue

From Mr Sydney Shenton Sir. The gas watchdog's recommendations may cause some concern to gas shareholders and arouse the anger of the management but is to be welcomed by customer and

the country at large. The operations of the private public utilities have been giving increasing considerable concern for some time. Emphasis on short-term profit and the interests of the equity holders and operators have been achieved at some cost to the consumer and long-term interest of the nation.

Lack of energy policies and strategic considerations have been harshly revealed coinciding with soaring profits at a time of severe recession. Simi-CAROL LEONARD | larly with water, which whilst

dealing with a large investment programme the opportunity has been taken to use the prescribed formulae to the limit and load capital expenditure on to prices. Michael Oakeshott, a great Conservative philosopher, was of the opinion that all total monopolies were evil, and wherever it was impossible to introduce real competition public control and ownership was essential. Perhaps after success in Edinburgh and recognition of the need to do more to assist recovery the Prime Minister may recommend the electricity watchdogs to take a leaf out of their gas colleagues' book. Yours faithfully
SYDNEY SHENTON. 95 The Crescent.

Davenport, Stockport.

Hard work to buy computer hardware

From Mr Colin Hull Sir, I refer to Alan Pardoe's letter (December 18). My own experience supports Mr Pardoe's suggestion that the computer industry is not suffering from the recession.

I recently set up in business on my own and I needed some computer equipment. I knew what I wanted, including the make of the products and the cost, about £6,000. The hard part was finding somebody to sell me the equipment. The manufacturer had four

authorised dealers in my area. I telephoned them all on a Saturday. Not one of them was open and none had an ans-wering machine. The following week I faxed all four with my requirements. Two did not respond, one would only sell me the equipment if I intended to buy an accounting system with it and the fourth left a message saying they could not deal with me because their credit terms were too strict although I had not men-

tioned method of payment). Eventually I found a dealer many miles away that would sell me the equipment. Their service fluctuated between being very helpful and efficient to not particularly efficient. As was the case with Mr Pardoe, the goods were dispatched only on my cheque clearing, leaving me to run the risk that the dealer might go bust prior to dispatch. By this time, however, I was so desperate to get my hands on a machine I went ahead and collected the goods personally. Yours faithfully, COLIN HULL,

CCH & Co, Corporate Tax Specialists, 231-233 High Street, London Colney, St Albans. Hertfordshire.

Let Post Office deliver the goods, not papers

From Mr P. M. Elton, Sir, So Chris Philip wants the Post Office to deliver newspapers (Business Letters, December 16). Heaven forbid! Like him I live in a rural area. Unfortunately my address is poorly served by the Post Office

letter delivery service. I never know from one day to the next when letters will be delivered. Delivery times vary anywhere in the range from 8 am to as late as 4.45 pm. For reasons known only to the Post Office some parts of this village get a better service including a sec-

ond delivery. Not this address. To compound the problem, in addition to delivering let-ters, the postman also delivers advertising material such as promotional leaflets for foot-ball pools. Obviously, whilst providing extra income to the Post Office, this makes the letter delivery times even more

All this "customer", to use the current Charter jargon, requires of the Post Office is for it to deliver letters on a reasonably regular basis and at a reasonable time of day. No advertising and certainly no newspapers, not even The Yours faithfully,

P. M. ELTON, 7 Anglesey Place. Great Barton, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.

Banks must guard against complacency

From Dr B. R. Middleton Sir, The chairman of Midland Bank says (December 16):

"We must guard against damage being done to the banking industry by unfounded criti-cism." No doubt, but the banks should also guard against unfounded compla cency. My own bank, Barclays, tells me cheques take seven working days to clear before cash can be drawn on them, as I found to my

temporary embarrassment today. Perhaps Sir Peter Walters could persuade his colleagues to install some up-to-date technology. Yours faithfully, B. R. MIDDLETON,

17 Edenhurst Avenue, SW6.

Letters to The Times Besiness and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

THE TIMES RENTALS

LOOKING TO RENT OR WANT TO RENT YOUR PROPERTY? RENTALS APPEAR EVERY WEDNESDAY

071-481 1920 071-481 4000

shares were lower in early

trade, falling on profit taking.

average was down eight to

3,305 at one stage, while in

the broad market declining

shares led gaining issues by

Tokyo — Shares ended mixed,

giving up earlier gains. Profit

taking after Friday's rally and

position clearing by dealers

three to two.

The Dow Jones industrial

Profit taking hits Dow

New York - Wall Street ahead of the year end hit the

17,645.44.

market. The Nikkei average

was down 35.30 points to

Frankfurt - German shares

climbed to a two-week closing

high as strong buying from

the futures and options mar-

ket, along with year-end short

covering, lifted prices. The

Dax index rose 23.54 to

1,515.58, its highest close

since December 7. (Reuter)

73.4

641

·***

1446

A STATE OF

Iran seeks more cuts in Opec production

FROM REUTER IN NICOSIA

IRAN has proposed that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries make deeper production cuts, to shore up sagging oil prices, than those agreed a month

Gholamreza Aqazadeh, the Iranian oil minister, told the Nicosia newsletter Middle East Economic Survey that Opec should order a 2 per cent cut in output levels agreed at the end of November. The new cuts would be effective until February.

He said: "Opec must seriously reduce its output in the light of the current surplus of crude and products in the

In actual volume, 2 per cent would mean 491,640 barrels per day, the kind of reduction analysts say could make a substantial difference in the market. It was not clear, however, whether Saudi Arabia, which had no immediate comment, would agree.

Oil prices have fallen sharply - by 15 per cent since October — before rebounding somewhat last week, partly because of declarations by some Opec members of cuts towards their new production

DISCRETION remains the better part of valour in the

run-up to Christmas as far as

investors in the bond market

Prices spent a lacklustre session drifting across the

board in thin conditions on

general lack of support. institutions continued to square up their portfolios ahead of

the year end and are still

On the futures market, the March series of the long gilt

never really got into its stride, finishing the session eight ticks down on Friday's closing

£9925/22, with a pairry 3,400 contracts completed, the low-

The cash market fared little

better with Treasury 9 per cent 2012 falling nine ticks to £1011//16, while at the shorter end Exchequer 94 per

cent 1998 shed five ticks at

est level this year.

are concerned

positions.

Optimism lifts shares to new high

SHARE prices are set to end 1992 on a high note with the equity market living up to expectations and topping 2,800 to close at a new peak.

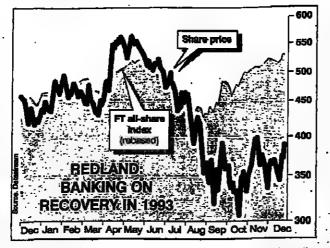
The FT-SE 100 index recovered from a hesitant start to close at its best of the day with a rise of 18 to 2,807.7. The index has now risen almost 13 per cent this year. Turnover was down on last Friday's figure of almost I billion shares, but still managed to reach a healthy 831 million, bolstered by squaring up of positions, bed and breakfast deals for establishing a yearend tax loss and numerous. basket trades carried out by arbitrageurs straddling both the cash and futures markets.

Wassall has cleared another hurdle in the battle for Evode with shareholders voting to approve its rights issue. Evode firmed 1p to 93p in the hope that Wassall will improve on its 80p a share offer, valuing Evode at £92 million. The rights will also enable Wassall to look elsewhere if the Evode bid falls through.

It was, in fact, the financial future that was responsible for much of the enthusiasm seen in the cash market. The March series touched 2,849 in heavy trading, a 40-point

SHORTS (un

Pund ets 1993
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premium over fair value. But this time the rise was more broadly based, with secondline issues attracting support as the FT-SE Mid index of too 250 shares climbed 33.8 to 2,817.4. Brokers reported strong support for secondalthough price movements indicated that stock shortages were behind some of the moves. These included the likes of Johnson Matthey, up 23p at 525p, and Tiphook, 18p to 368p, while Bunzi rose 6p to 122p in response to talk of a profit forecast rise by

Warburg Securities. The equity market's new-found strength has succeeded in underpinning recent optimism expressed by stockbroking analysts, who now look to 1993 as a year of recovery. They have been forecasting that the index would consoli date its year-end position at around 2,800 before passing 3,000 early in the new year. Among leaders, Tomkins jumped 15p to 265p as fund

managers began to think, about likely benefits from the

recent acquisition of Ranks Hovis McDougall: Lasmo showed signs of recovery, adding 9p to 151p. after disposing of several North Sea assets for around \$145 million. Dealers are hoping these latest disposals will provide the group with scope to maintain the

107% 110% 65°% 105% 137% 105% 125%

Treas 9/5 2002 Treas 10'5 2003 Fund 3/5 1999-04 Curr 0/4 2016 Treas 11/4 2001-04 Curr 9/4 2005-05 Treas 12/6 2005-05

LONGS (over 15 years)

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

Rolls-Royce reacted to its exclusion from the list of too

100 constituents with a rise of 10p to 1184p. The shares were a dull market last week on talk of option selling. But trading conditions are still tough, with markets for civil aircraft and spare parts re-

British Acrospace was also being sought, rising 10p to 177p with the speculators hoping for news of several large contracts being awarded this week.

The insurance composites breathed a sigh of relief after the government agreed to act as a reinsurer of last resort in cases of bomb attacks against commercial properties on the British mainland. The increase in acts of terrorism this

First National Finance, the consumer finance and property developer, rallied 7p to 59p, lped by revived institutional buying. The group has been hit hard by the recession but it is hoped lower interest rates will stimulate demand. Brokers say the new-found confidence in the price could also ngnal a rights issue

tives to decide the basis for the

Commercial Union sponded to the news with a rise of 11p to 619p. General Accident 17p to 587p, Guardian Royal Exchange 7p to 182p. and Sun Alliance 11p to 355p, while Trade Indemnity firmed 4p to 42p.

The life insurance companies also enjoyed a revival of interest with gains for Britan-nic, 10p to £10.70, Legal & General, 2p to 434p, Lloyds Abbey, 15p to 416p, London & Manchester, 3p to 278p. Refuge Group, 8p to 788p, and Prudential, 1p to 296p.
Redland, the building prod-

ucts group, climbed 19p to 390p as investors began banking on 1993 being a recovery year for the group. Strauss Turnbull, the broker, seems to think so and has nominated Redland as one of its companies for the new year.

The group remains big in Germany and this has cushioned it to a certain extent from the effects of the building slump in this country.

Shares of Savoy A, the hotelier, surged 73p to 633p in a thin market on revived talk of a bid for the company.

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Kleinwort Benson 303p (+14p)	Siebe	Cod Boldfare 704 664	Lilly (EII)	57	Tandem Camp
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Court of Appeal

Law Report December 22 1992

Court of Appeal

Builder can decide rival's development plan

Regina v Holderness Borough Council, Ex parte James Robert Developments Ltd Before Lord Justice Dillon, Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Simon Brown [Judgment December 4]

It was not necessarily improper for a builder to sit on a local authority planning committee considering applications for detailed planning permission submitted by a rival builder.

Notwithstanding the general proposition that a court did not sit to determine a substantive ques-tion of law which had become academic because there was no dispute to be resolved between the outstanding issue as to costs the court was entitled to determine the substantive issue so as to decide the liability as to costs.

The Court of Appeal so held (Lord Justice Dillon dissenting on the first point and Lord Justice Simon Brown on the second) when dismissing the applicants' appeal, with leave, against an order for costs made against them by Mr Justice Popplewell on November 25, 1991, when he dismissed their application for judicial review of decisions taken by the council's planning committee refusing to planning commutee returning to grant the applicants planning permission, which had become academic since planning per-mission was granted before the hearing of the application.

Mr John MacDonald, QC and Mr Richard Newbury for the applicants: Mr David Gerrey for the council.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that the applicants. speculative builders, acquired for development a two and a half acre site in Patrington in the council's area of Humberside in April 1989. with outline planning permission for housing, the site being within a

Applications for detailed plan-

To ascertain whether general commissioners had misdirected

themselves in law a case stated

under section 56 of the Taxes

Management Act 1970 should not

be approached as if it was an Act of

Notwithstanding imperfections

Mr Justice Ferris so stated in the

Chancery Division on December

I I when dismissing an appeal by the taxpayer, Mr Stephen Kirkby.

from a determination by the

it should be looked at in the round as a record of the case as it was

of Taxes)

Parliament.

presented to them.

refused by the council's planning committee between April 1989 and March 1991, and the burden of the application for judicial review was that one of the counciliors on the committee was a builder and developer within the SIME MEL The applicants contended, inter-

alia, that for the councillor to have participated in the deliberations on their applications was a clear breach of the rules of natural justice, and his involvement gave the appearance of bias.

His Lordship said that no doubt in an ideal world no one would ever adjudicate on another's cause if it gave him the very least opportunity to advance some interest of his own, however

Even applying the test set out in Metropolitan Properties Co (FGC) Ltd v Lannon (1969) 1 QB 577. 600) it was , in his Lordship's view, going too far to say that the mere fact of being a rival builder, perhaps one of many, within a provincial planning district nec-essarily disqualified one from sitting on the planning committee.

His Lordship therefore rejected any challenge based on natural justice, or any allegation that the councillor had any direct or In-direct pecuniary interest in the of the planning applications.

By the time that the application for judicial review came on for hearing in November 1991 de tailed planning permission had been granted and the councillor had already lost his seat on the council but no agreement had been reached as to the costs of the

application. The judge's decision on the matter of costs showed that he felt able to deal with the case without a protracted hearing, and on the footing that he had no thought of deciding a matter of general

Case stated not treated as an Act Kirkby v Hughes (Inspector Wirral general commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes)

The certain respects the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes and Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that had upheid further assessments to Taxes are the commissioners that the commissioners that had upheid further assessments the commissioners that the commissioners

income tax under Case I of

Schedule D for 1982-83 and

1984-85 in respect of profits

arising from his trade as a builder,

namely gains arising from the sale

HIS LORDSHIP said that the

taxpayer's case, rejected by the

commissioners, was that the prop-

erty had been acquired by him as

his private residence. The commis-

sioners, it was said, erred by asking

themselves whether it was a case

where the principal private res-

idence exemption from capital gains tax applied to the property and by failing to consider for what

November 3) his Lordship, sitting at first instance, sought to identify various categories of cases where judicial review proceedings were discontinued and had said that investigation in depth of the substantive ments of a case which had become academic would be a gross misuse of the court's time and further burden its already over-full

Furthermore, the judicial review jurisdiction was in any event a discretionary one, relief not infrequently being refused if an alternative remedy was available on the remedy being coupled. where the remedy being sought would be futile or unnecessary.

Although costs applications had rtained and resolved they should not be so determined as if resolved for their own sake: rather resolved for their own sake; rather an altogether broader approach should be adopted enabling the court in a comparatively short time to decide, and decide without giving a fully reasoned judgment, into which general category of discontinuance the case fell.

Still less was it appropriate in such circumstances at first instance to decide a point of principle of some difficulty which in itself was of no possible application to the parties before the court but which could well profoundly affect others we and down the country.

up and down the country.

In his Lordship's opinion, the judge should have refused leave to appeal in the present case which was not an ordinary judicial review. case. In any event the grant of leave could not bind the Court of Appeal to entertain the appeal if otherwise it was inappropriate to do so as, in his Lordship's judgment, in the present case.

Having considered Sun Life Assurance Co of Canada v Jervis [[1944] AC 111]; Meade v Harin-gev London Borough Council [[1979] 1.WLR 637), Westminster City Council v Croyalgrange Ltd [[1986] 1 WLR 674), National Coal Board v Ridgway [[987] ICR 641) and Ainsbury v Millington

In certain respects the commis-

sioners had put the matter some-

what unhappily: the issue for them was not stated with complete

accuracy. But reading the case as a

whole it was misleading and unfair to the commissioners to say

that they had addressed their

Looking at it in the round it

clearly showed that the commis-

sioners were not prepared to accept

the taxpayer's evidence that he had

acquired the property as a private

residence and they were entitled to

conclude that the profits from the

sale arose from his building trade

minds to the wrong question.

In R v Liverpool City Council, Ex

([1987] 1 WLR 379), his Lordship 1 Courts would not entertain an appeal where there was no list between the parties, that is, the question who won was a matter of complete indifference to one if not both of the parties; and that principle held good irrespective of whether the substantive point at issue was one of general public importance.

2 Provided there remained a list even if it was only the unresolved issue of costs, the court could continue to entertain an appeal. 3 Where the only remaining lls would be within the appeal court's discretion whether or not to enter-

tain the appeal; it would be unlikely to do so unless a point of general importance arose.
In his Lordship's view the unique and decisive feature of the present case was that the issue was only ever decided as an issue going

It was really an inappropriate use of court time to resolve what in all other respects was a purely academic question, even if an important one, just so as to deal fairly and properly with the costs incurred before that question be-

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the court below was not in a position to assess the correct costs order without an evaluation of the prospects of success had the judicial review application been heard and

If the judge below was entitled to hear the matter and in doing so to decide the issue which otherwise would not have been tried, the Court of Appeal could not refuse to hear a dissatisfied litigant who obtained leave to appeal from the judge, and her Ladyship had no doubt, with some regret, that the applicants had a right to be heard before the present court.

The proposition that a builder ought not to sit on a planning committee hearing the application of a rival builder carrying on business in the same area was too wide. In effect such a builder would be debarred from sitting on the planning committee at all. Equally could a surveyor or

architect sit on the committee since one or both might be involved with other builders in projects in the local area? Her Ladyship recognised the

danger of corruption or impropriety in an area of local government where applicants stood to gain great rewards from successful applications, but there was always the risk of pressure or influence or personal interest which might not necessarily be restricted to builders or surveyors or similar

Although the principle of natususpicion in the minds of fair-minded men to be allayed, the applicants' proposition was unworkable in its width.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that in Westminster City Council v Croyalgrange Lord Bridge of Har-wich had said (at p678) that since the issue of costs remained at large, it could not be said that there was no *lis s*ufficient to keep the appeal

It followed that the judge below had jurisdiction to entertain the proceedings and to decide the substantive question to determine the liability for costs. If the applicants' costs were anything like as high as they claimed it would have been an injustice to them if the judge had refused to hear the case because it only concerned costs.

If the judge was both entitled and right to hear the case, it was the more difficult for the Court of Appeal to refuse to hear an appeal, by whichever side, from the judge's decision when the stakes were now much higher and leave to appeal, if needed, had been granted. Thus the court should entertain the appeal and decide the substantive uestion. It was common ground that a

planning committee deciding on a planning application had to abide by the requirements of natural justice: it was exercising a dis-cretion which was of the nature of a judicial discretion: R v Hendor Rural District Council, Ex parte Chorley ([1933] 2 KB 696). In his Lordship's view, for a

builder to sit as a member of the planning committee considering a planning application for a substantial residential development by another builder or developer would inevitably and reasonably give rise to (a) a belief in fair-minded men who were op-posed to the proposed dev-elopment that the builder on the that his colleague or the developer obtained what they wanted, or (b) a belief in the applicant builder or developer that the builder on the council would try to do down a rival or place difficulties in his way.

If the test of bias in Lannon (at p600) was applied, the answer would have been that the councilior should not have sat on the applicants' planning applications. The dangers of corruption in local government were great, particularly in the field of plan-

ning. It was important to underline the principle that justice should be seen to be done.

The councillor might indeed have been honest and in no way biased, but the appearances were against him because of the nature

of his job.
Solicitors: Stamp Jackson & Procter, Hull; Mr R. Wade, Hull.

Negligence not apt for suing over reference

Spring v Guardian Assurance pic and Others

Before Lord Justice Glidewell. Lord Justice Rose and Sir Chris topher Stade [Judgment December 10]

As a general proposition, the giver of a reference owed no duty in the tort of negligence to the subject of the reference. His duty to the subject was governed by and lay in the tort of defamation.

If it were otherwise the defence of qualified privilege in an action for defamation where a reference was given, or the necessity for the plaintiff to prove malice in an action for malicious falsebood, would be by-passed.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal from a decision of Judge Lever, QC, sitting as a judge of the Queen's Bench Division (The Times February 10) finding the defendants, Guardian Assurance plc, Corinium Holdings Ltd, Corinium Mortgage Services (Cirencester) Ltd and Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance pic, were liable in damages for neg-ligent misstatement to the plaintiff. Graham Spring, for giving him a

Mr Bernard Livesey, QC and Mr Witold Pawlak for the plaintiff, Mr David Eady, QC and Mr Gerard Clarke for the defendants.

JUSTICE GLIDEWELL, giving the judgment of the court, said that the plaintiff worked for the Corinium

the sale of those companies to Guardian Royal Exchange (GRE) he was dismissed. He attempted to set up a

business elsewhere selling the products of another insurance company, Scottish Amicable, which involved a reference being supplied by GRE to Scottish Amicable under the Lautro rules. The reference given about the plaintiff was, to use Judge Lever's words "so strikingly bad as to amount to... "the kiss of death" to his career in insurance. Scottish Amicable wanted no truck with the

man it described." man it described.

Judge Lever had found that the plaintiff was a fool and not a rogue plantal was a loot and not a rogue and, therefore, that the passages in the reference which asserted, or from which it could only be inferred that he had acted dishonestly were untrue.

He concluded that while ma-licious falsehood had not been made out there had been neg-ligence in the preparation of the

A direct decision in favour of the plaintiff on the issue of negligence was that of Lawton v BOC Transhield Ltd [1987] ICR 7]

where Mr Justice Tudor Evans had held that the defendants did owe a duty of care to the plaintiff in compiling and giving a reference but that they were not in breach of their duty. In Bell-Booth Group Ltd v AG

[[1989] 3 NZLR 148) the New Zealand Court of Appeal allowed an appeal against a finding of negligence in an action for defamation and negligence in the

alternative. Sir Robin Cooke, President, concluded his judgment by saying: "... in our opinion justice does not require or warrant an importation of negligence law into this class of cases. Where remedies are needed they are already available in the form of actions for defamation, injurious falsehood, breach of contract or breach of confidence. Accordingly ... the findings of duty of care and breach and the award of damages for negligence [will be] set aside."

In their Lordships' view the decision in that case represented the law of England. As a general proposition, the giver of a reference owed no duty of care in the tort of negligence to the

subject of the reference. His duty was governed by and lay in the tort If it were otherwise the defence of qualified privilege in an action for defamation where a reference

was given, or the necessity for the plaintiff to prove malice in an action for malicious falsehood would be by-passed. In effect a substantial section of

the law regarding those two asso-ciated torts would be emasculated. It followed that Mr Justice Tudor Evans was wrong in Lawron v BOC Transhield to hold that the defendants owed a duty of care. It appeared from the report of that cussion during the hearing of the relationship between the torts of negligence and defamation.

Solicitors: Ringrose Wharton & Co. Bristol: Clifford Chance.

Jury cannot convict accused of offence unknown to law

Before Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Blofeld and Mr Justice [Reasons December 10]

Where a defendant was charged with causing grievous bodily harm with intent, contrary to section 18 of the Offences against the Person Act 1861, it was not open to the jury to acquit him of that offence and convict him of causing grievous bodily harm, an offence not

known to the law. The Court of Appeal so stated when giving reasons for allowing, on December 7, the appeal of Andrew John Field against his conviction on March 31, 1992 at Inner London Crown Court (Judge Pryor, QC and a jury) of causing grievous bodily harm.

appear below, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant: Mr W. N. McKinnon for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE RUSSELL giving the judgment of the court, said that the judge had directed the jury that there were three possible verdicts: (i) guilty as charged, of causing grievous bodily harm with intent; (ii) not guilty as charged, but guilty of causing grievous bodily harm; (iii) not guilty.

That left for the jury's consideration an offence unknown to the law, namely causing grievous bodily harm.

The jury thereupon acquitted the appellant of the offence charged and purported to return a verdict

which was not open to them.

Mr Graham Cooke, who did not one count and did not contain particulars of the manner in which the harm had allegedly been Caused.

Their Lordships took the view that the jury would not have been at liberty to return an alternative verdict of unlawful wounding or of assault: see R v McCready ([1978] 1 WLR 1376).

By parity of reasoning, their Lordships did not think that the jury would have been at liberty to return a verdict of inflicting grievous bodily harm, contrary to section 20 of the 1861 Act without a second count under that section being added to the indictment or particulars of the manner in which the harm was caused being added to the first count.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Inner London.

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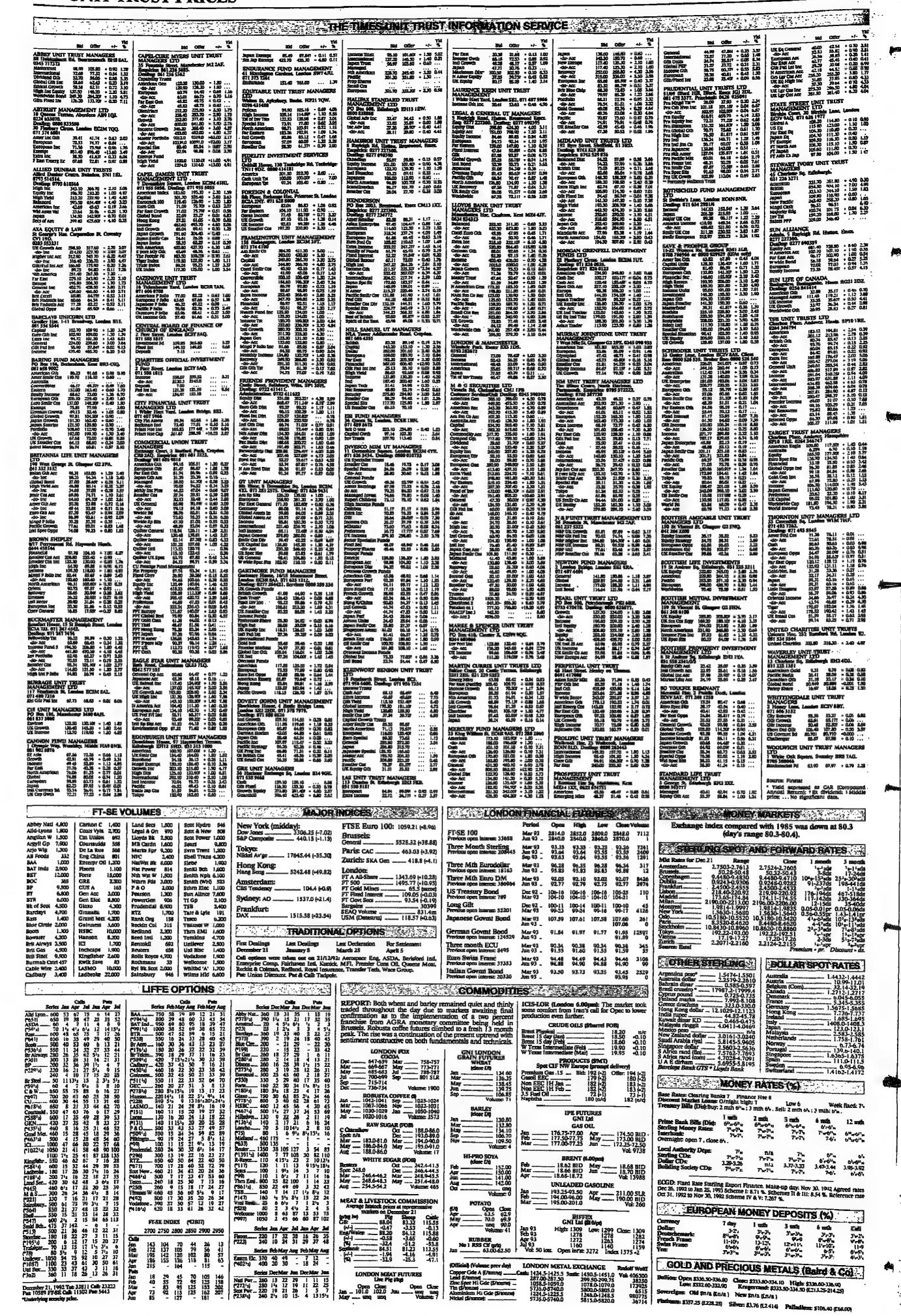
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THEATRE page 24

A Lope de Vega comedy brings a European season at the Gate Theatre to a lively close

NEW YORK page 25

Tim Curry stars on Broadway in a new, musical version of My Favorite Year



OPERA: Kobbé was once the only reference source, but Rodney Milnes is now spoilt for choice

The bible of top Cs, from A to Z

uddenly there are opera us, opera dictionaries to the left of us. Ours to reason why: in the old days, if you wanted to refresh your memory of the plot of Aida before an evening at Covent Garden, you looked it up in Kobbe, and if you wanted to check note, and if you wanted to check put Domingo's birth date, you went to the Concise Oxford Dictionary of Opera. Kobbé, first published in 1922 and judiciously, if selectively, updated by Lord Harewood, was the bible, but the repertory has expanded both forwards and backwards over the last 20 years, and ome of the operas you are likely to ce - Donizetti's Gismonda di Worms, say — are not in it. And it is no good looking up Simon Rattle n CODO because be was only five when it was first published. CODO was reborn in October as

he no longer concise, indeed reatly expanded, Oxford Dictionby of Opera by John Warrack and wan West. It remains an indisensable vade mecum for operatic acts (though Domingo's birth late, a great talking point in peratic circles, has been mysteriusly advanced by seven years) and i an absolute snip at £25.

This week, just in time for thristmas (and for the promised 192 publication date), finished opies of the four-volume New Crove Dictionary of Opera, edited h Stanley Sadie, arrive in London, aless obvious snip at £550. Already is proof is the Penguin/Viking opera Guide, edited by Amanda Holden and to be published in nardback next autumn at (probably) £60. Interest to be declared: as the odd grey hairs of both editors attest, I have contributed briefly to both Grove and POG, and received an agreeable liquid offering after minimal consultation with the editors of ODO.

Of much more interest, even given the vastly increased public enthusiasm for opera over the last decade, is the question of who these dictionaries are for, and will they buy them? Sadie refers back to George Grove's 1879 introduction to his original Dictionary: "It is designed for Professional musicians and Amateurs alike," (Grove's capitals). "We have never lost sight of that, even in the most learned entities," Sadie adds.

The statistics are dizzying. There are 1,800 opera synopses [1,500 more than Kobbé" — a gleam of satisfaction in Sadie's eye, entries on 2,900 composers, 2,700 singers, plus conductors, directors, derigners, administrators and even the odd critic. That is just the fictionary part: amongst the 5,040,000 words — more than the 1,327,000 promised by the publici-



ty material — from 1.300 contributors are copious background essays: 67 pages by Brian Trowell on the libretto, 22 pages of which are bibliography; Bernard Williams on the very nature of opera; John Rosselli on the sociology of opera (bang up to date): Curtis Price and Patrick Carnegy on allegory; Lord Harewood on casting; opera seasons and their roots in religious festivals; the history of stage machinery and theatre architecture; histories of rehearsal, tickets and opera on film: five pages on opera dictionaries; and a two-page discussion of rock opera by, very property.

John Rockwell. When I suggest that this is an encyclopaedia, or everything you always wanted to know about opera but didn't know whom to ask. Sadie demurs. "We always wanted to avoid that word. An encyclopaedia claims to give information in a closely interrelated, all-embracing fashion, whereas a dictionary is something that you want to look things up in, and we were determined to retain that idea. But I. might settle for 'an encyclopaedic

Who is going to spend £550 on it? Academics and libraries, of course. But is it not just, as cynics and Jeremiahs have been suggesting, a re-hash of the parent Grove 6? In fact, no. Only 20 per cent has been carried over, for example entries on composers so obscure that only one scholar in the world is qualified to write about them. As Sadie rightly says, there is no one better on Janacek than John Tyrreil, or on Donizetti than William Ashbrook and Julian Budden. but otherwise he has consciously commissioned new writers on major composers, "to bring a fresher.

perhaps even younger perspective"
— hence Barry Millington on
Wagner, Roger Parker on Verdi, Julian Rushton on Mozart (Sadie's own field) and Anthony Hicks on Handel. Work-lists and bibliographies, prime fodder for academics and hacks on the look-out for cribs. have respectively been polished and brought completely up to date.
Sadie and Macmillan, the publishers, are confident that ordinary opera lovers will also buy the book. Some have already done so: half the first print run of 7,000 has been

pre-sold, and they expect a further

quarter to disappear fairly swiftly once copies are in the shops. After all, £550 is no more than the cost of four good seats at Covent Garden plus a modest supper, and NGDO will last ionger than both. Amanda Holden also links her dictionary to ticket prices. £60 for POG isn't much more than the best

amphitheatre seat at the Garden. and less than two good stalls at the Coliseum. Her book has no encyclopaedic pretentions: entries are restricted to composers and their operas - no singers, conductors or designers. A total of 810 composers and all their works are covered in more than a million words by 110 contributors. It is, says Holden, "written by experts for the person on the Clapham omnibus. It isn't stuffy. Some of the synopses are

actually quite furnry. In addition to details of American, British and European premieres, the orchestration of major operas is noted (for instance, is a bandoneon or a wind machine required?), plus dates and publishers of vocal or full scores, and if unpublished, location of the autograph. Rough durations and recommend-

able recordings are given. POG is, then, in the nature of a handbook, as its title suggests: those thinking of putting on Gis-monda di Worms will find out whether or not it needs a heckelphone, how long it lasts and who publishes it. It may also, given its completeness, prove that it is still pretty difficult to invent a Donizetti opera

 he nearly always got there first.
 Such is the interest in opera nowadays compared to ten years ago that the confidence of Macmillan and Penguin/Viking is probably justified. I can only say that I use ODO every day of my working life, and have to discipline myself to

stop enjoying it as well as using it: once you start following crossreferences, two hours have passed before you can put the wretched

Grove proofs have been just as dangerous: they are crammed full of red meat, provocative, informative and, damn them, exhaustively cross-referenced. My only complaint so far is that a glancing aside about Martin Scorsese included in the discussion of a Massenet opera, which I thought rather chic and not entirely irrelevant, has been excised. But this is, after all, a serious dictionary.

Of course there are mistakes in Grove and ODO, as there will be in POG, and a certain grim satisfaction in spotting them, but that is the nature of the first editions of all works of reference. When second, corrected editions come along, we will all have to go through the same agonising decisions as to whether or not we have to buy them. But that will not be for quite a few years

ARTS BRIEFING

Crafty

THOSE living in the Newcastle area may be forgiven for thinking that the Northern Arts organisation is staffed by bankers when they learn about the new Art Purchase Plan offering interest-free loans for commissioning new works of art and craft. The new borrow money for a portrait, to commission a sculpture for the coffee table, and to request cash to employ local stained glass makers. The only restriction is that the work should be commissioned from artists working in the region which covers Cleveland, Cumbria, County Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear.

Loans are repayable over 12 months - presumably the work is repossessed if repayments lapse. If the uptake is good, local artists could find themselves fully booked up. But the scheme may have its artistic drawbacks: commissioned portraits of the great-aunt or the favourite spaniel, and requests for a set of hand-crafted ceramic tiles for the bathroom, may pay the wages, but may not necessarily be art.

 ONE of Europe's most important art collections goes back on public view this week. The Semper Gallery in Dresden is reopening after being forced to close in 1988 when the building was deemed a fire bazard. The collection was built up by the hugely wealthy dukes of Saxony and concentrates on European paintings of the 18th and 19th centuries. There are particularly fine examples of the Dutch and Spanish schools but the collection also boasts some priceless Dürer. The paintings were stored in mines outside the city during the war and thus avoided the destruction inflicted upon Dresden by Allied bombs.

Last chance...

HANSEL AND GRETEL is an opera with a doppelganger: alongside its gentle gemütlich charm strides the cruelty inherent in any folk-tale. David Pountney's brilliant English National Opera production catches both the charm and the horror, creating a memorable "cruel mother" figure out of the Witch. The last two performances are the matinee and evening at the Coliseum (071-836 3161) tomorrow: Donald Maxwell's ebullient Father and Lionel Friend's sensitive conducting are common to

OPERA: The BBC has spent almost £1 million on a television 'soap' opera. Simon Tait reports

Bank on blood to keep them watching

igh art for the ordinary viewer? How EastEnders-style soap? That is the thinking behind The Vimpyr, the first soap-opera orera, a project conceived by dilector Nigel Finch and produrer Janet Street-Porter, which goes out on BBC 2 on Doember 29 and continues for consecutive nights in five mire half-hour episodes; there is an oranibus edition on January 10.

The Vampyr could reveal an unsuspected and unsuspecting aidience, and could change cera. For while the setting and libretto are modern, the nusic, though hardly Fidelio, i as old as Beethoven's, cour-many of a little-known 19th entury German composer, leinrich Marschner. With her television version

of The Vampyr, Street-Porter wants to strike a blow against "horrible" arts programmes.
"Producers telling you the way you should like the arts, for your cultural health's sake. It's a load of cobblers. I wanted to take high art and show that it could be made to appeal to ordinary viewers, so we took the highest, opera, and gave it the EastEnders treatment."

There is more opera on television than ever. At October's arts and broadcasting sonference in Brighton. Richand Eyre described most of it is being like office panto in the vorks canteen. None gets iuge audiences, but Streetonter is planning on a million riewers, three times what opera can usually expect. There is alk of The Vampyr being given a cinema showing, in tustralia, and even of a stage reatment, to be produced by 2ameron Mackintosh This is a vampire story

which predates Bram Stoker's by 60 years, an opera by Heinrich Marschner which was a hit in the 1820s and since then rarely seen. The original lyrics have been re-placed with a libretto by Charles Hart, whose credits include Phantom of the Opera and Aspects of Love. The scenario is as current as Janet Street-Porter herself. "The

modern folk-tale." "The path we took wasn't



Omar Ebrahim as the Vampyr, with one of his victims, Fiona O'Neill, in The Vampyr

character's got to be believ-able, but without any redeeming features," she says. "It's a

This vampire saunters undaunted in the sunlight, enjoys the running water of a shower and is careless of silver crosses and cloves of garlic. This vampire is also a gambler on the money markets, a bon viveur in the high life. Even his catacomb is a penthouse flat. really straight," sings his business pariner and eventual vanquisher. "We turned fine white dust into real estate."
Our post-Thatcher varupire.

Ripley, is a guest at a sculpture private view (filmed, suitably, at Damien Hirst's horrid and acclaimed exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery) at which the guests are served canapes of raw goat's eyes. They file into another room where a white coven is presided over by a black witch (played by a trans-vestite called Winston). Ripley, played by Omar Ebrahim, is told that to buy more time on earth he must seduce and kill

three women in three days. There is a familiar ending to many of the scenes, according to the crew's day sheets: bonking: a vampire. There is a good deal of both, which is why the episodes will not be

seen until 9pm. Nudity was a problem for the singers "Not for the women," says Street-Porter. "It was the men who were worried about the

The piece was found for Finch and Street-Porter by Robert Chevara of Opera Fac-10ry, of which Street-Porter is a board member. Chevara offered Rossini, Puccini, Cavalli and Ravel, but The Vampyr had the right ingredients.

The total cost of the sixpart mini-series is about £1 million, nearly all of it borne by the BBC. It was to have been a joint production, but record companies refused to join because the libretto was not in the original German, and the Dutch television company dropped out just before shootInstead of Ripley's horrific car crash injuries disappearing in a "mixing out" effect, Finch decided to make him simply have a shower, literally washing his wounds away. But the car wash scene, in which Ripley's Rolls-Royce boot opens for thousands of gallons of blood to gush out, stayed.

Finch thinks they will still be editing on Christmas eve hecause of the complexities of the programme. Opera on television has usually been either a studio-made production or broadcast from the stage: much more rarely has an opera been given the location treatment of a drama

Making the music conform to the half-hour episode format was one of the most difficult tricks, but the score, under the musical direction of David Parry with the assistance of Paul McGrath, has not been tampered with at all. "The music is very inflexible." says Finch. "If you want to change a shot you have to do it in terms the music will allow."

He uses what he calls clichés from not only the soaps, where a life's worth of drama gets crammed into an episode, but from rock videos, placing his action in familiar places. "I needed a story that viewers could get into and which would hold them, and plenty of sex and violence," explains

"But I needed the music, and the Marschner score is full of great arias and wonderful nmes. We're calling it a soap opera, but it's going to be in the Twin Peaks category."

• The Vampyr is to be broadcast on BBC 2 over six aights, begin-ning on December 29 at 9pm

THE TIMES AUSTRALIA DAY GALA COMPETITION

Win a night with Carreras

Free seats for the Australia Day Gala Concert at

the Royal Opera House with

champagne and dinner



unday, January 31, could be your lucky day. That is when the great tenor José Carreras sings at the Australia Day Gala Concert at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden - and you could be there to see him perform on this sparkling occasion.

As part of the charity evening. The Musical Foundation in London, is offering two pairs of top price gala tickets, a champagne reception and dinner, and a souvenir programme worth £10 to the winners of today's competition.

It will be an evening to remember. Carreras will sing Tosti's song, "L'ultima canzone", "Lippen schweigen" (in duet with Yvonne Kenny, soprano) from Lehar's Merry Widow, "Una furtiva lagrima" from L'Elisir d'amore, and - with Kenny, Joan Carden (soprano), Suzanne Johnston (mezzo-soprano) and Jonathan Summers (baritone). — the rousing Brindisi" from Act I of La Traviata.

The varied and well-planned programme includes Sir Charles Mackernas conducting the Australian Gala Concert Orchestra, Leslie Howard (piano), Penelope Thwaites (piano), James Morrison (trumpet) and John Williams (guitar).

It will be a practical evening, too: the concert, which is sponsored by Foster's, is

in aid of the Australian Musical Foundation in London (of which the Prince of Wales is patron in chief) and the José Carreras International Leukaemia

• If you are tempted to join us, first answer these three questions associated with the gala evening:

I In which role, opera and year did José Carreras make his début at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden?

2 Who was the choreographer of Pineapple Poll, the ballet for which Sir Charles Mackerras arranged the music? 3 Which work had its London première at the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, on March 23, 1743?

Now, if you know the correct answers, simply phone them in on the number below. Normal Times competition rules

PHONE ANSWERS on 0891 500-106 up to midnight on December 29 (Cults over 36p per minute cheap rate, and 48p per minute at all tother times)

• If you would like to guarantee seats at the gala evening, either call in person at the Royal Opera House Box Office, 48 Floral Street, London WC2E 7QA (10am-8pm), or telephone 071-240 1911, quoting "Australia Day Gala Times Offer". Tickets for the orchestral stalls cost E75 each and, exclusively for Times readers, the price includes pre-concert drinks and canapis, and a complimentary gala souvenir programme worth £10.

LONDON CITY BALLET: The combining romance, tragedy and superstition, is the inspiration for Jack Canter's belief The Witchboy, the highlight of the company's lessy mas bit. Also issuance are Agitton's Lessons to the company of the company o Panneurs — fun on skales in Victorian England — and Lichine's humorous Graciustion Bell Stephen Jefferias, principal of the Royal Ballet, will be guest dancer lonight and lomonrow, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC. 1071-278 BOILS Tockfet Manue. EC1 (071-278 8916). Tonight, tomorrow

7.30pm, mets today, tom

THE SIXTEEN: The over-reliable choir and orchestra of The Steen under Henry Christophers performs Bach's Christmes Chelorio (parts 1-3) and the Beandarth on Chelorio randerburg Concerto No 3. The solosis are Lynda Russell, Catherine Wyn-Rogers, Mark Padmore and Michael George. Tomorrow, they perform parts 4-6 logether with St John's, Smeh Square, London SWI 071-222 1061), tanight, tamorrow.

A strong lineup of soloists — Anne Howells, John Mark Arristey, Willerd White and Thomas Allen — join the Talks Chamber Chorr and the ECO under

TI AMPHORIMANS: Superb ensumble playing in Belly Roche's robust elegy for a fishing community in Westord.

The Pit, Bartistan Centre, EC2 (071-638 8891) Tonight, territorium, 7 15pm.

ASSASSINS: Sonthern's sharp and successful musical explores the expulse that drives no-hopers to lid! American Presidents. American resourus Dommar Warebouse, Earthern Street, WC2 (071-867 1150). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm 105mins (closed

☐ MARMUNE Paul Hickobs walks the tightrope in a Christmas revival of the trghtrope in a Christmas revival of the showber musical. Donatolon, Tottenhern Court Road, W1 (071-580 8845), Mon-Sat, 7.30pm,

CAROUSEL: Joanne Riding and Michael Hayden star in a triumphant Michael Haycen see and musical revised of the farground musical historial (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 ((271-928/2252), Mon-Sat, 7/30pm, mate 1/40mms (closed

CYNUMO DE SERGERAC PODEN Lincay looks right as the nessely challenged hero but the production is too busting to give enough room to the full poopsancy of his fate. Theetre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800) Mon-Sat, 7 30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm, 180mins (closed Christmas eve and Christmas day)

☐ HAY FEVER: Very lunray performances (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent corned-Albery, St Managers eapect or Covero's excellent comedy. Alberry, St Martin's Lene, WC2 (071-867 1115). Mon-Sat, Sprn, mets. Thura, Sat, Sprn. 150mins (closed Christmen eve and Christmes day).

OF HUNS IN THE FAMILY: LINE IN the hospital common room, ma outraced; doctors flummored, i Cooney farce with lots of laughs.
Planthouse, Northumberland Ave. Playhouse, Northumbariand Avenue, WC2 (071-838 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm. Set, 8-30pm, mats Thura, 3pm, Set, 5-30pm.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND: AVIE Careret, Hermeh Gordon and Martin Shawin Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated assumptions but stylishly done. Globe, Shallesbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, meta Thure, 3pm, Set, 4pm, 186mine.

CHAPLIN (12): A swind impersonation by Robert Downey Jr., but Richard Attenborough's bitly biographical epio never penetrates far Inside the main or

COOL WORLD (12): France,
pullicusing mased madle exercise from
enimation's wild man Raigh Baleshi.
With Gabriel Byrte, Krm Bessager
MGBI Futherz Road (071-370 2636)
MGBI Totalenteur Court Road (071-636
6148) MGBI Trocadero (071-434

THE INTERPLET CHRESTMAS
CAROL (U): Successful blend of
Dickers's story with Muppet madness
staming Michael Caine as Scrooge:
Karmit en Bob Cratchit. Director, Britan

Name as and Crades Decay, area Henson, Carreless (CT1-287 7034)
Might Bather Street (CT1-285 7034)
Might Bather Street (CT1-285 9035)
Magnetial (CT1-285 9327)
Might Contend (CT1-285 9327)
Might Contend (CT1-434 0031)
Colored Street (CT1-434 0031)
Colored Street (CT1-434 0031)
Microality (CT1-752 3332)
Whiteleys (CT1-752 3332)

THE PRINCESS AND THE GORLIN (U): Blandy animated edition of George MacDonald's Victorian cheese choose a sheltaned princess combatting gobins. Director, Juzzel Genes Odeon Kensington (0426 \$14666).

ART GALLERIES

NEW RELEASES

TODAY SEVENTS

A daily guide to mis

Wombley Arena, Wembley, Miccel (081-900 1234), tonight, tomorrow,

BIRIMINGHAM: One of the Barber Institute's masterpieces is Poussin's Tancred and Erminia, showing one of

show entitled Dangerous Listson it a surrounded by a larger version of the

Hermitage, and 13 other works by the master, including the Deposition from the Hermitage and loans from Dutwich, the National Gallery and the museum at

Caen. The fheme is also pursued through the works of Pousein

ition borrowed from the

the most famous moments from

REGIONAL

Jeffrey Tate for a timely performance of Berlioz's cratono, L'Enlance du Christ. Barbican, Sitk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.30pm EXTREME: The American hee rackers tout a rousing, solid rock with meladic structures: the Los Angeles band Hardline get second billing. Wembley Arena, Wembley, Middles

LEEDS: Granny and the Gorills, or "The Great Ape Escape": described as a heary fairy slory. For children of seven and upwards, who sit in the middle of the action in a huge set.
Countyard, West Yorkahire Playhouse
(0532 442111). Today, 3pm and 7pm,
tomorrow, 3pm and 7pm, Thurs, 3pm; then at various times daily until Jan 9 (closed Christmas day and New Year's

Birmingham Museums and Art Galleries, Chamberlain Square (021-235 2834). Mon-Sat, 9.30am-Spm, Sun.

GLASGOW: The Christmas show here is Myles Rudge's version of *The Jungle* Book, bold and <u>colourful</u>, directed by

Giles Havergel. Citizene, Gorbels (047-429 0022). Mon-Sat, variously at 10am, 2pm and 7pm, until Jan 16 (closed Christmas

SCARBOROLIGH: Octoopherie Charles Thomas's Christmas show Prince on a White Bike, set in London's East End in 1934, shows how a case END IT 1834, SIEDES IOW 8
handsome young strangs helps the
women to rebel against their glum man.
Stephen Joseph Theatre in the
Round (0723 37054) Mon-Sat, 7:30µm
(closed Christmas eve, Christmas day,
Bosing day, Dao 27, 28).

THEATRE GUIDE

Messe tell, resems only

Some seets evallable

Seets et all prices

☐ KISS OF THE SPEDER WOMANE Tremendously glossy production of the Karder & Edst musical. It consumes the values of Manuel Pulg's novel but Chita Rivers makes a striking varup. Shaffasbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-279 5389). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mass Wed, Sat, 3pm, 160mms (closed Christmes eve and Christmas day).

LOST IN YOMKERS: Tank BL LOST IN VIONCENS: Territo performance by Rosemery Hights in a Neil Simon comedy more weighty than usuel. Mauraen Lipmen gives good value as a loopy aurt. Strand, Aldwych, WC2 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. 160mins (closed Christmes

□ MUSERY: Sharon Gless (ex-cop Cagney) unrerves Bill Patarson in stage verson of the Stephen King thriller. Criterion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (071-538 4488). Mon-Set, Spm, mais Wed, 3pm, Set, Apm. 150mms (closed Christmas day).

CI OUR SONG: Pole: O'Tools in Kild!) Washinuse's play shout a menopautal male's Infaluation with a young worrian. Neatly done though we only hear the man's point of view. Apolio, Shollesbury Avenue, W1 (071-484 5070). Mon-Fri. 8.15pm, Sal, 8pm and if 45pm, 185mm (closed Christmes eve and Christmes day).

RADIO TIMES: Toriv Stattery in a ☐ RADIO TIMES: Tony Slettery in a lun trip down Memory Lans, set in wartime Broadcasting House, bursting with sprightly Noel Gay numbers. Queen's, Shattasbury Aurous, Wi (971-494 5040), Mon-Fr. 7.30pm, Set, āpm, mets Thurs, 2.30pm, Set, 4.30pm. 180mins (closed Christmes day).

DITHE RISE AND PALL OF LITTLE Hornodes in Jim Cartwight's play about a shy girl escaping her naucoue mother: Ingenious but incredible. Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 8404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm.

150mins (closed Christmas ever end Christmas day).

D THREE BUTTS ALKSTYNING ON A THE DE Hands Water period again in revisal of this subtle, comic state-of-the-nation play, set in a world of shang values and plummeting sit-prices. Reyel Court, Sloene Square, SW1 (271-730 1745). Mon-Set, 8pm, met Set, 4pm, 150mins (closed Dec 21-Boxing

TRAVELS WITH MY ALINT: Simon Cadel, John Welle, Richard Kare, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in Giles Hevergel's mervellous adentation of Graham Ginene's charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116), Mon-Fri, Born, Sal, 8 15pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sal, 5pm, 140mins (closed Christmas eve and Christmas eve and Christmas eve and

TREAMINT OF THE WELLE'S Pinero's comedy about theatre folk in mid-Victorian London, Successful only in peris and the minor parts at that. Stars. Michael Hordem and Sarah Brightman. Consedy, Panton Street, SWI (071-867 1045). Mon-Stat, 7-30pm, mass Wed, Set, 2-30pm, 150mine (closed Christman eve and Christmas day).

De and Crissines Cey).

Brothers: Phoens: (971-867 1044)

Buddy: Victore Palece (971-834 1317)... Cammen Jenne: Old Vic (971-805 168)... E Catter New London (971-405 0072)... The Complete Windon of Writing Shafenspeare (Abridged): Arts Thesi (971-836 2132)... Dending at Lughmens: Camick (971-494 5095)

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Il Joseph and the Ansazing Technicotor Dreamcost: Paliadium (071-44
5037)... Il Me and the Oliz Adelphi
(071-836 7811)... Il Les Minératites:
Palace (071-836 4000)... Il Mises
Balgon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lans (071494 5400)... Il The Motsestrap:
3 Martin's (071-836 1443)... Il The
Phermion of the Opera: Her Majasty's
(071-494 5400)... Il Return to the
Forbidden Planut: Cambridge (071379 5290)... Il Startight Express:
Apolio Victoris (071-828 8665)

Il The Women is Steoic Fortune
(071-832 2255).

Ticket information from Society of West End Thesian.

Gooff Brown's assessment of Time in London and (where increase will the symbol +) at remain scross the country

CINEMA GUIDE

CURRENT

+ BEAUTY AND THE MEAST (U): Sumptuous Disney cartoon fery-tale blessed with skilled einmesion. Directors, Gary (100scose, Are Vape. Curzon West End (071-439 4805) MGM Chelses (071-352 5096) MGM Tothenham Court Road (071-4536 5746) MSM Tros. Mars (071-454 0031) Odeons: Kerasington (0428 914685) Marzani — (0428 918825)

THE CHYMAS GAME (15) PA THE CHYMIC CAME (15): PA guntan becomes obsessed with a hostage or girthend. Bold, powerful Neil Jordan Rm that have, at the close. Sen Stephen Res. Forcet Whiteler, Jaye Dawdson, Mirenda Richerdeon. Chelsee (071-351 3742/3743) Curson Picento (071-351 3742/3743) Curson Picento (071-351 672)

◆ DEATH DESCRIES HER (PG): Maryl Streep and Goldie Hawn battle to attain eternal youth. Ice-cold black cornedy, utimately swamped by special affects. Stars Bruce Willis; director, Robert Zamucab

Comden Partisies (071-257 7034)— Emplre (071-927 5925) MCM Partisis (071-935 9772) MGM Pubern Hond (071-970 2636) MGM Trocadoro (071-434 0031) UCI Whiteleys (071-792 3332). + HOME ALONE 2 LOST IN NEW

Berbican (071-500 8801) Michia Challes (071-382 8080) Michia Cadurd

Street (071-636 0310) Odeons: SISTER ACT (PG): Whoopi

Goldberg Index out in a convent.
Contrived but disarming, warm-hanter comedy. Director, Emile Andolino.
MGM Balance Street (071-355 9772)
MGM Chelsen (071-355 9306) MGM Darlond Street (071-355 9310)
Category Street (071-355 9310)
Category Street (071-355 9310) Odecins: Kensington (0426 914685) West End (0426 915574) UGI (UT1-792 30EC).

 STRECTLY MALLISCOM (PG): One dencer's fight to dely the rules of the Australian Ballroom Denceng Federation, Ebullient, Intoxicating debut Pecasion: Eculiant, intractang coult by discipling light inverse.

MGM Cheleon (771-532 5096) MGM Cadord Street (771-539 6310) MGM Pleading (771-537 354) October (Washington (Mc26 914886) Mezzandon (1426 915983) Plana (771-697 9999) Remoir (771-537 8402).

THEATRE: Jeremy Kingston enjoys an unusually light-hearted play by Lope de Vega

Crazy gang on the Costa Blanca

Madness in Valencia Gate

THE six-month season of "Plays for Europe", four of them British premieres, ends on a high note with this dashing production of a Lope de Vega. written around 1600, yet astonishingly modern in its concern to mark the wobbling boundary between sanity and madness.

Lope is perfectly clear what causes madness in his gallery of bustling characters: love, or more precisely. jealousy. Elsewhere in his works such matters are treated as subjects for high drama, revenge and general calamity: here, they are materials for mirth - not for the distraught lovers, it is true, who all go into fits. Lope himself had been exiled to

Valencia after a more than usually complicated romantic tangle - so unlike the home life of our own dear Bard - and it is to this same city that Floriano flees after killing his rival in love, no less a person than the king's son and heir. Erifila has also made her way there, having professed (to escape her father) love for her servant, who promptly steals her jewels and most of her clothes. Valencia was the first European city to have a sanatorium where attempts were made to cure the mad, and Floriano and Erifila take shelter there, instantly falling in love with each other. Everyone falls in and out of love at the drop of a sombrero, generally exclaiming. "I have never seen such perfection!"

Both pretend to be mad: two other women fall for him and affect madness so as to stay in his company. Two men fall for Erifila but remain sane. Genuine madmen are also present,

IN A darkened room in the Icon

Gallery, Birmingham, pendulums swing over debris-littered tables; a big

brass wheel notches round bit by bit.

making tiny spotlights glare through retort glasses full of water, so that the

activity of bubbles within, or pins made

to jump by magnetism, is projected as enlarged shadows onto eight tall metal sheets that curve restlessly back and

forward. These moving sculptures are

by Jean-Pierre Saint-Roch; the sound-

track of weird noises and voices by

This is the beart, and the most

interesting part, of a four-room instal-

lation, Memoria, by Rosa Sanchez,

which takes its themes of alchemy.

remembering and forgetting from the

novel One Hundred Years of Solitude

by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Commis-

sioned by the Icon Gallery, it is there

until January 6 and will go next spring

to Leicester, Nottingham and

In each city it becomes, for a few

Alain Baumann.

Portsmouth.



Lively lovers: Exifila (Caroline Loncy) and Floriano (Simon Kunz) in Madness in Valencia

one of whom claims to be Don Ouixote and the other his creator, though the dates suggest this is a bit of translator's licence on the part of David Johnston, who has provided this robust and eminently speakable version. The doctor, who is clearly madder than his patients, may be director's licence on Laurence Boswell's part, since his lines could well be delivered straight and not from a constantly acrobatic actor. Boswell comes up with a really dever

way to stage the rapid sequence of confrontations. Three pairs of black curtains hang across the stage, strongly cross-lit by Paul Russell, and these are whisked open and shut to deepen or reduce the acting area and to provide abrupt exits, sudden re-entries and neat jokes, with shoes promuding beneath them. It is a touring theatre's equivalent of a farce stage with seven

The zestful company of nine includes

the alert Erifila of Caroline Loncq. egs blazing when jealousy assails her, a pawky, knowing Warder from Join Straiton, and an exceptionally strong and termented Floriano from Simm Kunz Across his gaunt El Greco fae, part martyr, part demon, wild smiss go flashing while his voice expresss the agitation of his heart. The flowrbedecked costumes of the Holy Inncents Day parade (by Rae Smin, assisted by Lucy Nilas) are amazing

Alchemy produces the odd nugget of real gold

DANCE: In Birmingham, John Percival reviews a

multi-media show based on a Marquez novel

nights, part of the project Déjà-Vu involving two activities and two venues. During the afternoon or early evening. the five dancers of Motionhouse perform episodes related to Marquez's book within the installation; then they and the spectators adjourn to a nearby theatre for a separate but related dance performance, Arcadio. In Birmingham the theatre is the

studio of the Dance Centre, which is situated above the spacious entrance foyer of the Hippodrome Theatre.

The dance images in the gallery are short, sharp and intense. A man and

woman indulge ambiguously in lovemaking or fighting. Two women go through a life cycle from foctus to growth to death. Then everything turns violent: two men, one apparently wounded; a blind girl discovering blood on the wall; a man pretending to masturbate: all the dancers throwing themselves about and finally pretending to expire.

Elements from this recur, recycled into milder forms, in Arcadio, where there are also suggestions of family life and of a primitive colture confronting civilisation as lizard-like creatures with garden compost. The laying of tallecloths is a recurring obsession, replaced at the end by the same action with gravecloths. Earnestly solemn acting alternies

bony tails slither over a floor covered in

with sequences of sliding, jumpag, catching and falling. The movement vocabulary begins to look more and more limited as the piece goes on. Rosa Sanchez's set design is the

strongest element: it consists of noable wooden tables and a pole ha seems to be a totem, a chimney or cross - not apparently related to the gallery installation. Jazzy music b Harry Dawes and Ray Lee provides contrasting background.

Arcadio will also tour widely on it own; although relevant to the gallery work, it may actually look stronger given separately without that more intense preliminary experience. Digital and the European Arts Festival are among a dozen sponsors and support-

ORCHESTRAL MUSIC: Stephen Pettitt warns would-be stars that updating your image is not enough

AS THE London Chamber Orchestra's grotesque "Power Concerts" and :: trivialisation and distortion, masquerading as innovative presentation, are currently all the rage in the competition to tap vast new markets. The siogan seems to be: "To hell with the quality of the listening: the sales figure is what matters." One of the latest and youngest groups to leap on to this gaudily decorated bandwagon is the chamber orchestra Eos, which made its South Bank debut under the auspices

of the Park Lane Group on Thursday. The players look good, having abandoned those silly old-fashioned clothes that most musicians still seem peculiarly content to wear as their equivalent of the boiler suit. But in the department that matters most, as yet

Good looks, bad sounds were always the Eos/Hazlewood

they play only aver-They began this concert, after the

conductor Charles Hazlewood's confident if lengthy explanation of the piece. with Mozart's Sinionia Concertante, K297b, the one for four winds. Not much you can do with that, you might think, except play the damned thing, which Eos and the four soloists, Eugene Felid, Robert Ault, Mike Rear and Rene Pagen duly did more or less efficiently, though without once making the spine bristle at the elegant inventiveness of it all.

Lest we should become bored, there

TECHNICOLOR

fairy-lights draping Oueen Elizabeth Hall each music stand and a light show evoking a nocturnal sky and bathing

the players in various colours to look at. Those things I could bear, even enjoy: they lent the work an appropriate divertimento-like flavour. But someone had thought it a good idea to enliven the finale — such boring variations, you understand — by employing some poor child dressed in (I think) periodstyle party togs to bring on a birthday cake and attach balloons to music stands. The stomach churned and the ears abruptly turned off.

or 240ms (the fee) 071-144 4444/977 9977/379 9901 Green Sales 071 930 6123 Groups 071 494 1671 The WORLD'S MOST POPULAR

LES MISERABLES

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INITED NO. OF SEATS AVA DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PROBLEX BO/CC 867 1044 867 1111/344 4444 (Be) 897 9977 BEST MISSCAL ALL WILLY ROSSEL'S

ments, we were nearly an hour into the greater faux pas. Barry Adamson, a former rock musician, has contrived to compose a score called A New Begirning to accompany a new film ly Derrick Santini called Eos (the title are synonymous). The film, which is a black-and-white effort about a misrable, deserted man who visits tle garden of some stately home and purs into a statue, has some nicely angle shots but is otherwise dull. The must, impoverished in ideas and incomptently scored, is simply awful.

Thanks to elaborate stage arrange-

If Eos is to make a name for itselft must learn that it can only experiment with materials of basically sound quality. As it was, after this work [could bear no more.

ENTERTAINMENTS

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AURINE UTI ESS TALL CC 071 344 4444/379 9901 First Call 24br cc 071 497 9977 (so beg ha) Crosse 071 930 6123 edjet 270 16 Jan 1903 COLMENIA 071 836 3161 or 071 240 8258 or 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24br/7 dep) 071 244 4444 ENGLISH NATIONAL 0FEAR TON'T 7-30 ANDUCON TOWN 7-30 & 7-30 (LEST POTE) HARRIER, AND GRETTE, ME AND MY GIRL
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THE PREST PROCECTIONS

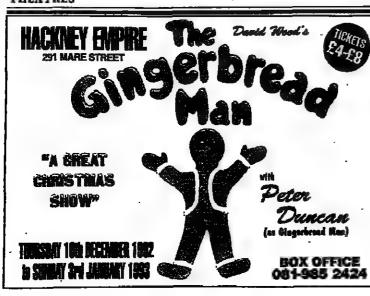
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Kitsch is on the cards at Christmas presents and a cherry-coloured necklace. Or the so-called musical ucts guaranteed to send

me into a Scrooge-like paroxysm of bile, Christmas cards must surely be the most nauseating. Rank upon rank of their remorselessly jolly images fill the high-street shops, vying with each other in a shameless attempt to arouse our most saccharine emotions.

No doubt realising that the contemporary world has little to offer as seasonal cheer, many of the card manufacturers rush back headlong into a grossly sentimen-talised version of Christmas Past. The shops are awash with soft-focus visions of Christmas as a perpetually Victorian event, replete with shining eyes and period accessories. Justly forgotten artists are resurrected for the purpose.

Only occasionally does the festive mood give way to a more sombre note, and even then mawkishness hovers like a spectre. In J.C. Dollman's A London Cabstand, two exhausted horses stand in the slush. One of them stares down disconsolately at an empty nose-bag on the road - a detail calculated to mg at the heart-strings of all socially-concerned Victorians. But I tloubt if today's card-fanciers would regard the animal's plight as anything more than a wistfully picturesque scene.

Judging by the other historic paintings on offer, piety and merriment are the only options. Unless you go to the National Gallery or the Tate, where a far wider range of pictures is available, Murillo's cloying Virgin and Child in Glory sums up the emphasis on suffocating devotion. The other kind of old master permitted shelfspace is the Flemish ice-skating scene. But instead of choosing an example of Breughel the Elder, who handled the genre with overwhelming vitality, the card-makers have plumped for Breughel the Younger — a painter capable only of reducing his father's inventions to the level of wearisome cliché.

Modern religious paintings are mercifully hard to find. If Noel Syers's unspeakably sugary nativity is anything to go by, with its lipsticked virgin and sad-eyed donkey, we are lucky to be spared them. But there is a horrifying abundance of secular alternatives. How about Simon Elvin's jumbo-size offering. lined with glistening gilt and even sporting a gold tassel, which ac-companies a kitsch painting of a stage-coach rolling past half-timbered houses with the blatant Sentimental Season"?

Then there are the beribboned cats and kittens, all nestling in a

card, which opens to reveal a badly drawn Christmas to reveal a badly drawn Christmas tree with only three flashing red lights, pathetically accompanying a joyless version of Jingle Bells which ends as abruptly as it begins. You can buy this execrable item for £1.79.

And a hefty £3.60 will secure the optimistically entitled.

And a hefty £3.60 will secure me optimistically entitled Explosive Pop-Up, an "elasticated 3D Greetings Card" which, claims Second Nature Ltd. is a "miracle in paper engineering". Buyers will be underwhelmed by the tired old tableau of Santa by the fireside that tableau of Santa by the fireside that rises, rather sluggishly, when the card is opened.

The prices attached to many of these offerings prove that people are prepared to pay a startling amount for such things, even in these recession-haunted times. One design may claim, with the aid of a winsome little girl in Father Christmas costume holding a mistletoe over her head, that "the best things to life the property of the best things." in life are free for the asking". But

'Judging by the paintings on offer, piety and merriment are the only options'

the adage clearly does not apply to the booming, not to say voracious, card business. Over Christmas alone, it amounts to a staggering £1.6 billion market. And there is every sign that the demand for certain kinds of greeting is rapidly expanding.
One of the growth areas is risque

humour. End-of-the-pier jokes have always been staple fare, of course, but this year a new brand of Chippendale-influenced card concentrates on the male body. One cover, produced by the Andrew Brownsworld Collection, carries a cartoon of two respectable old ladies fondling pink balls on their tree, and one says to the other: "I like my Christmas trees the way I like my men ... well hungi!" As if to counter this elbow-nudging naughtiness, the card earnestly informs us on the back that it has been "made from the soft wool pulp of sustainable Scandinavian forests. For every tree cut down at least one more is replanted, thus replenishing the earth's atmosphere."

So that's all right, then. We are free to sayour the smuttiness with a clear conscience, and the ubiquitous Camden Graphics is quick to oblige. One of their most prominent designs shows a ladderclimbing Santa, his trousers falling down, under the caption "Being drunk at Christmas is like a builder's burn". And inside the punchline, if so it can be termed, runs "No one cares if it shows a lime!"

If the British love vulgarity, they are equally susceptible to flowery versifying. "Listen to the Silence of the Snow-Bound Sleeping Earth" commands a card adorned with a trite little village scene, where robins, holly and sickly yellow lanterns mingle with other predict-able trimmings. A related design. from the same wistful stable, an-nounces an overwhelming desire "To Wish You the Wonder of Glitter and Shine".

But the masterpiece of the whole glutinous genre is undoubtedly a card which comes to us by courtesy of something called "the Susan Polis Schutz and Stephen Schutz Holiday Collection from Blue Mountain Arts". Their concoction bears on its cover, above an umusually bleak snowscape, a heartfelt vow: "This Christmas,

Dad, I may not still be your little girl, but I'll always love you just the same." Just in case that affirmation is not moving enough, the card opens to reveal a full-blown poem elaborating on the same sentiments by Carol Maatta Oberg, who would have been better advised not to sign it.

The same observation could also be applied to the alarmingly abundant section targeted at the
card-sender's family relatives. Paradoxically, the insistence on addressing the relatives ("Christmas
wishes, dear brother and sister-inlaw") ends up sounding stiff and impersonal. Sometimes, an awkward attempt is made to temper the formality, with results as embar-rassing as "Love you, nana", or From daddy's girl at Christmas".

But to my astonishment, I discovered that no limit can now be drawn around the number of people who deserve a specifically aimed greeting. Every conceivable debt of gratitude is catered for. "A special thank you for my milkman' is displayed alongside cards "For someone in the Lord's service" and 'For the refuse collector".

Nor does the whole feverish activity end on December 25. Staggering out of the specialist shop Trump Cards in search of some reviving winter air, I nearly bumped into a separate section devoted to New Year cards. Alongside a cack-handed design of a Big Ben-style clock nearing midnight, one cover announced that "The past year is on it's [sic] last legs." So. I would suggest, is the entire raison d'être of the hopelessly debased, incurably schmaltzy Christmas









Are these the only alternatives? The suffocating devotion of old masters such as Murillo's "cloying" Virgin and Child in Glory (top left); beribonned cats and fluffy kittens; an "unspeakably sugary" modern nativity by Noel Syers; and risque humour

In with a fighting chance

NEW YORK THEATRE: An assured performance from Tim Curry as a cinema idol anxious to revive a fading career

s Broadway's newest A leading man, in the musical My Favorite Year, everything about Tim Curry is smart. From his trim moustache and beard to the suave figure he cuts dancing and fencing up and down stairs and atop balustrades, to the confident baritone he unfurls in song, he is diabolically attractive. Never mind that he looks more Richard III than Count of Monte Cristo and is rather too youthful to be Alan Swann, a Hollywood has-been who started in 58 Errol Flynnish movies. Curry has the panache to rise above logic. And above comparisons with Peter O'Toole, who created Swann in the 1982 movie

that inspired this musical. In the first Vivian Beaumont Theater production inaugurating Andre Bishop as artistic director of that Lincoln Center venue, the setting is Manhattan in the 1950s heyday of live television. Alan Swann has ruined his person-al and professional life through alcohol and lechery, but wins a second chance at both when invited to guest-star on a television variety show. Benjy Stone (Evan Pappas, as likable as a dever puppy), a young gag writer and fan of Swann, is assigned to babysit

obody ever wins the Prix Goncourt. France's premier liter-

ary prize, without someone in

Paris crying "Foul!" It has happened again this year. The

1992 winner was a writer

Chamoiseau, who received the

prize for a novel written partly

in Creole argot called Texaco.

Now the critic Bernard Pivot

has claimed, in an article in

the magazine Lire, that

Chamoiseau would never have

got the prize for his long,

difficult novel without the

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the unreliable star through rehearsals and broadcast. On Thomas Lynch's spien-

diferous Art Deco-style Waldorf Astoria suite and Rockefeller Center studio sets, interspersed with night-time Manhattan and a wildly flowered Stone family apartment, the characters cavort in witty costumes by Patricia Zipprodit chorus girls, for instance, dad as coffee cups and other personifications of television commercial products.

The supporting cast — particularly Lanie Kazan, recreating her film role of Beniy's Swann-worshipping mother and Andrea Martin as a writer stealing the show when let loose to perform a television sketch - sparkles in Thommie Walsh's snappy musical staging and Ron Lagomarsino's direction.

Demonstrably an audience-pleaser. My Favorite Year suffers artistically from a divided tone. Joseph Dougherty's book. Stephen Flaherty's music and Lynn Ahren's lyrics veer between the hilarities of the television studio and Benjy's Jewish-Filipino family and the banalities of Benry's romance and Swann's relationship with his estranged daughter. Bathos looms when Tim Curry has to sing a



Pappas and Curry: reliving the heyday of live television

maudlin ballad as the Act 1 finale. But sogginess aside, I found this 1950s riff on live television far more engaging than the more inventive 1940s Hollywood riff City of Angels.

Unfortunately, negative reviews from Frank Rich and others may send Tim Curry home early.

HOLLY HILL

TELEVISION REVIEW: A satirical look at the bureaucracy of European union

miserating with Euro-sceptical

Brits (and, of course, Anglo-

sceptical Scots, Welsh and

Irish who already know what

We're all funny dinner with friends, all chatting in some Francoforeigners now German dialect that has become the new lingua franca of the European Community; and sipping Edelweiss squash, inanity of some of the by-products of harmonisation, and by taking pity on the because wine has been outlawed by Brussels after attempts to produce an integrated but palatable "Euro-wine" blended from a millions of Europeans who are being forced into closer ties "foreigners don't like foreignmixture of all the national with Britain, as well as com-

ed to a high enough temperalife can be like when soverture to kill listeria germs; and eignty shifts a few hundred miles away).

McCarthy justifiably pours
scorn on the horrid bready all wearing hairnets which became mandatory headgear when in the presence of food even in your own house. Could things that too often pass for sausages in Britain, on the chemically induced tang of it come to this? Well, possibly. The satirist has to simplify and then exaggerate, which is prawn cocktail crisps and on a problem for anyone trying to many British tourists' aversion to the coffee that greets them satirise the workings of Brussels, as the writer and performin France and Italy because it tastes too much like coffee for er Pete McCarthy learnt in last their liking, thanks all the night's I'm All Right Jacques (BBC 2). The EC bureaucracy same. And he quite rightly so often already seems such a warns fellow Europeans about forging closer links to a coun-try that invented pork scratchings, presumably on the ground that a country that parody of itself that it becomes tricky for anyone else to par-ody it further: lawnmower noise harmonisation, hairnets willingly eats a snack that has for fishermen working on

wines foundered when a vat of

Greek retsina was poured into

the mixture; and nibbling on

char-grilled Camembert heat-

factory ships, condom regula-

hairs growing on it probably does plenty of other peculiar tions, a policy that forces us all things as well.
"For us, Europe is just something to blame when things go wrong over here," says McCarthy, which, as far as Norman Lamont and John

to subsidise farmers for not growing anything but does not bankroll writers not to write or Yorkshire miners not to dig coal. McCarthy rose to the challenge by not always trying to Major are concerned, may be out-Brussels Brussels in the one of its most attractive

qualities just at the moment. He also notes that the "British don't like foreigners" but that

ers either. And no one likes the Germans. There then followed the usual jokes about Hitler, Nazis, the war, Germany's predilection for annexing its

neighbours, and the ugly re-

Germany today. These are standard ingredients in the Euro-comic's recipe book. Understandably, Germans get upset at the innuendo and complain that the British can never forget the war. Brits, meanwhile, tend to laugh at these jokes, even though they have heard them countless times before, because, well, no, they haven't forgotten the war and because, well, some of them are still not sure quite how much they should be laughing, anyway.

JOE JOSEPH

THE LONDON

Our guaranteed rate offer expires on 1 January 1993. From 2 January 1993 the new variable rates will be as follows:

Amount Invested	interest Paid	Gross p.a.*	Net p.a.
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PARIS NOTEBOOK: a prize literary row; discord among musicians

Don't judge a book by its coverage

the famous Czech novelist from Martinique. Patrick Milan Kundera, who often visits the Antilles.

Kundera, he says, gave a party for Chamoiseau to which he invited several members of the Goncourt jury. On top of that, he wrote an article praising Chamoiseau's work just a few weeks before the publication of Texaco.

The newspaper Le Monde has hit back at Pivot. What a splendid demonstration of how to force the hand of a jury. it declares ironically. Before the prize was awarded, it says, the general opinion in Paris was that Kundera's party had actually harmed Chamoiseau's chances. As for the article, it appeared not "just a

tion of the novel, but in June 1991, a year and two months

ANOTHER French row has just been settled. The musicians of the Orchestre de Paris have been in dispute with their management over money for two years, since a tour of Italy

parties have reached agreement - and have decided to give the sum they were arguing over to charity.

Happy conclusion? for a concert hall with first-

quite. Another problem that had been shelved now looms up again: the orchestra's need class acoustics and decent

All Paris has is the Salle Pleyel, where the acoustics do

not reach contemporary standards, the musicians chairs are famously uncomfortable. and there is nowhere behind the scenes for the instrumentalists to warm up. You cannot have a great orchestra without a first-class concert hall, the musicians say - and they point with envy to Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna and Chi-

working conditions for the

cago (but not London). DERWENT MAY

It's been a funny old year at the Bar

The year of 1992 was a fairly typical one in the law courts. The Court of Appeal ordered the retrial of a man convicted of murder because the trial judge had directed the jury that the defence case was "manifest rubbish" and "transparent nonsense". A judge at Hereford Crown Court told a defendant that, "a lot of the excuses for your behaviour are that you had problems with a woman. Who do you think hasn't? It's part of their function in life." A Crown prosecutor jokingly in-formed a group of students that the criminals he faced in court were too favourably treated: "I'd hang them. I'd flog them and

I'd birch them — but I can't."

It was a difficult year for some advocates. In Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, the chairman of the magistrates' bench interrupted the sentencing of a defendant in a drink-drive case to order the defence solicitor to leave the court because his Crown Court, in London, a judge ordered the arrest of defence counsel arguing a criminal case because the barrister persist-ed in making submissions despite the judge's direction that he sit down and be quiet. A solicitor was jailed for three hours for contempt for refusing to withdraw critical remarks about the running of a court in Staffordshire.

Judges faced a number of distractions.
At the Old Bailey, a judge sacked a juror from a case for constantly interrupting the proceedings. A young woman burst topless into Cardiff Crown Court in protest at the arrest of her boyfriend. A Crown Court judge in Newcastle upon pleasure from the public gallery after a jury acquitted a defendant on a charge of wounding, ordered 12 members of the public to be detained in prison for the night. The acquitted defendant sadly explained that he "was hoping to celebrate with my friends, but they were all

There were important changes in the senior judiciary. A new Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor, and a new Master of the Rolls, Sir Thomas Bingham, were appointed. Each expressed the opinion that the European Convention on Human Rights should be incorporated into domestic law. Lord Donaldson, the former Master of the Rolls, gave a valedictory speech at the retirement of Lord Lane, the former Chief Justice, denouncing what he described as a "campaign of calumny" which had sought to make Lord Lane a "scapegoat for failures of the criminal

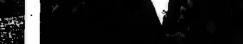
That system continued to give cause for concern. In quashing the conviction of Judith Ward, who had spent 18 years in prison after being wrongly convicted of the M62 IRA coach bombing, Lord Justice Glidewell stated that "our law does not tolerate a conviction to be secured by ambush". In allowing an appeal by three men convicted of the murder of a Cardiff prostions, and tell him he is going to sit there until he says what you want, there will











Scene and heard: (clockwise from top left) Roger Seelig; the newly appointed Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor; Mona Bauwens; Lord Justice Bingham, the new Master of the Rolls; Jani Allan

The Lord Chancellor's department began consultation on whether legal wigs and gowns should be abolished

come a time when most people will crack". The second Guinness trial was brought to a premature end because of the strain on Roger Seelig, one of the defendants. The Blue Arrow fraud convictions were overturned by the Court of Appeal because of the content of the summing-up to the jury by the trial judge.

The acquittal of the defendants in the

Matrix Churchill arms-to-Iraq trial made the scope of public interest immunity a topic of public debate. The courts considered whether to allow doctors to stop feeding a victim of the Hillsborough disaster who "lives" in a coma. The man who tried to sell a memorandum detailing the relationship between Paddy Ashdown and his former secretary was convicted of handling a stolen document, but acquitted of burglary. Because of the laws of evidence, the jury were not told that titute. Lord Taylor reminded police forces - he had 230 previous convictions for that "if you go on asking somebody ques- burglary, many of them of business he had 230 previous convictions for burglary, many of them of business burglary, many of them of business action against New Woman magazine, premises.

The libel courts provided their custom-

'ary entertainment. During Jani Allan's unsuccessful libel action against Channel 4 for suggesting that she had an affair with Eugene Terre Blanche, the South African neo-Nazi, the cross-examination by George Carman QC revealed that Mr Terre Blanche wore green underpants with holes in them. The jury falled to reach agreement in Mona Bauwens's libel action against The People for suggesting that David Melior and family should not have been friends with her. Evidence about the minister for fun's free holidays contributed to the pressures which forced him to resign.

Sara Keays told Desmond Browne, QC. "Do you think I chose to be here, having

the details of my involvement with this man [Cecil Parkinson] pawed over by people like you?"

The Lord Chancellor required a judge at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court to apologise to a female usher after finding that the judge had "kissed her on both cheeks and placed his hands on her waist". Mandy Smith agreed to receive £580,000 as a divorce settlement for a marriage in which she allegedly green. marriage in which she allegedly spent only five nights with Rolling Stone Bill Wyman. Alison Halford settled her sex discrimination claim against the Manchester Police Authority. At Cardiff Manchester Police Authority. At Cardiff Crown Court, a judge's wig was stolen. A solicitor's clerk was convicted of stealing a dissent to a judgment of the court. The

cellor's department began consultation on whether legal wigs and gowns should be

The Treasury confirmed that it had agreed to pay £4,000 to the solicitors who had advised the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Norman Lamont, in relation to press enquiries concerning the eviction of an unsatisfactory tenant. The Lord Chan-

cellor warned about cuts in legal aid.

Nothing which occurred in the English legal system could compete for absurdity with legal developments in the United States of America in 1992. In Texas, a barrister's wig from the robing room in chief judge of the New York court of • The author is a practising barrister and a

blackmailing his former lover by threaten-ing to publish compromising photo-graphs of her with her new boyfriend. A woman sued Bill Clinton on the ground that the prospect of "a draft-dodger and communist sympathiser" being elected president was causing her "serious emotional and mental stress". And a US district court judge accepted that "counsel have a constitutional right to regard each other as schmucks".

In the most significant legal proceedings in England this year, Mr Justice Macpherson declined to grant an injunction to stop the general election 48 hours before polling day. The applicant had complained that he could only vote for those candidates whose names were on the heliot paper and this was a denial of the ballot paper and this was a denial of his democratic rights. We will all be suffering from the consequences of this decision well into 1993.

Southend Crown Court. The Lord Chan- appeals was arrested and charged with Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.

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Counting the cost of justice

agistrates at their association's annu-al meeting passed a resolution that thefts of £200 or less should be triable at the crown court only at the discrethat the right of the defendant to elect crown court trial for such offences should cease, Adrian J. Turner writes.

The proposal by the Inner Manchester Branch aroused considerable interest. The reason for the concern was that the motion would remove a constitutional right that has existed for a very long time and continues to enjoy strong support in both branches of the legal profession.

The proposal to make small thefts triable only in the magistrates' court is not new. The Interdepartmental Committee on the Distribution of Criminal Business Between the Crown Court and the Magistrates' Court recommended in 1975 that thefts of property not exceeding £20 in value should become summary only. The reason was that such cases were not serious and "[did] not justify the elaborate and expensive method of crown court trial". Parliament did not agree.

The motion differs in one very significant respect from the committee's recommendation: committal to the crown court trial would be possible at the discretion of the justices. This recognises that the monetary value is not the only relevant issue.

For example, the theft may be of a cheque made out in a large sum of money. In such a case the gravity of the charge arises not so much from the value of the piece of paper, but from the thief's intentions. Another instance is where the offence was committed in breach of trust. In such a case the amount stolen is often of secondary

importance. It would be very difficult to preserve the right to elect jury trial in these and other cases where the gravity is not apparent from the terms of the

Should those accused of petty theft be allowed an expensive trial by jury?



charge. The range of possibilities is too great and there would be problems of definition. The solution, therefore. is to give the justices a discretion which they would exercise according to the circumstances.

The main objection to the proposal is that all thefts are serious and anyone facing such a grave allegation should be able to elect trial by jury. I do not for one moment suggest that theft is not serious. It is a fundamental wrong. but its commission is commonplace.

Home Office statistics show that in 1990 the total number of persons proceeded against for theft and handling was 160,400. Of these, 15 per cent were committed for trial and 8 per cent received custodial sentences. The figures for prosecutions, however, represent only the tip of the iceberg. In the same year the total number of notifiable

offences of theft of less than £100 value recorded by the police was 1,000,192,

In the face of such numbers it is difficult to sustain an argument that theft continues to carry such great infamy or disgrace as opponents of summary only trial claim. The Criminal Justice Act

1991 draws a distinction between offences against property and against the person. The clear intent is for the former to be dealt with by community and other noncustodial penalties. Even before the Act, it

required a substantial value or other aggravating factors to justify custody. If seriousness is the main consideration in sentencing, as by statute it must now be, small theft is a long way down the scale.

The strongest argument, however, is that there are numerous offences of greater seriousness than small theft that can only be tried in the Association.

magistrates' court. Many involve dishonesty, such as interfering with a motor vehicle with intent to steal the vehicle itself or property from it. Others involve violence, such as assaulting a police officer in the execution of his duty. It is inconsistent and illogical that these offences must be heard by magistrates when the most trivial theft can go to

the crown court. We have a two-tier criminal court system because the expense of crown court trial for minor offences cannot be justified. A middle "either way" category will always be necessary as long as there are some offence labels that are broader than the magistrates' jurisdiction alone can contain. But the narrower we can make that group of offences the more we will bring clarity and fairness to the process.

heft is a strong candidate for a more limited "cither way" band, and the only consistent and sensible means we can use is the value of the property stolen. It indicates the harm done and usually illuminates the offender's culpability.

The resolution passed by conference has revived an important discussion on the appropriate court of trial for a great number of offences. I hope it will lead to a fresh parliamentary enquiry into the matter. I also hope that defenders of jury trial for these cases will take note of the many changes that have occurred in magistrates'

courts in recent years. If, as I suspect, many of them lack confidence in the fairness of summary trial because of past experience, they will now find improved selection and training of justices, and that the label "police court" has long since ceased to be justified.

• The author is a barrister and joint honorary secretary of the Inner Manchester Branch of the Magistrates'

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Carp classic casts new light on an ancient pastime

told me that more Hooks have been written about fishing than about any other subject except mathematics. He was, of course, a fisherman himself, almost certainly not much of a mathematician and the evening, it is

true, was no longer young. Even so, not many subjects have as long a literature as angling and no sport has a literature more elegant. There is something about fishing and especially fly-fishing — that not only attracts writers but causes literary springs to flow in those who otherwise have given all to more arid

it has always been thus. The written record of fly-fishing. the most esoteric branch of angling, goes back 2,000 years to De Animalium Natura, by Claudius Aelianus. The written record of fly-fishing in the English language goes back to 1496, to The Treatyse of Fysshynge with an Angle, by Dame Juliana Berners.

Since then, the stream of literature has been in full flood. Some surprising names have bobbed up. Sir Robert Boyle, of Boyle's Law, took enough time out from schoolboy tortures to write a book about angling. Sir Humphrey Davy, of the miner's lamp, also wrote a fishing book. Charles Kingsley, of The Water Babies, wet a few lines. Lord Grey of Falloden, who saw the metaphorical lights going out across Europe, wrote a wonderful book on fly-fishing before his own physical

blindness struck. Today, many thousands of fishing books are in print and the best of the old ones fetch astonishing prices. Each year es a mountain of new grist added to the printer's mill. For every publisher, the

challenge remains constant:

caused by one hard frost and

Wigan's home draw against

Hull in the first Regal Trophy

backing of as many as seven

games by the end of January,

could think differently about

an additional four league fix-

tures in 1993-4, as they face

the prospect of playing twice a

The Rugby Football League

called the draw a worst case

scenario. It has caused a

week until the season's end.

Both clubs, faced with a

semi-final on Saturday week.

Brian Clarke trawls through the year's fishing literature and discovers an outstanding tale

at the summit of the book mountain

that of finding new authors with new things to say and the ability to say them well. Some well-known anglers now write so much that they are beginning to devalue their own currency. A few are writing their reputations to death. A few others cannot be persuaded to produce enough.

For writers, the challenge is constant, as well: to produce the book that will last.

There are three kinds of fishing book that last. The first is the book that takes angling technique noticeably forward.



These are very few indeed: angling is an ancient business, as Claudius Aelianus would be the first to say. The second book is that which increases understanding: the book that slips a correcting lens over eyes that have seen only what tradition and idleness have taught them to see. Such a book alters attitude and

The third book is of another kind completely: that which evokes the atmosphere and experience of angling so strongly that the reader might be sitting deep inside the

writer's mind, seeing with his eyes, listening with his ears, filtering with his emotions.

Which brings us to 1992. The year has seen no books in the first two categories - most years, of course, see no book in any category - but it has produced a book of the third kind. The Secret Carp by Chris Yates (Merlin Unwin Books, £16.95) is unquestionably the read of the year, indeed of many years. It is a potential

Yates, among other things, is the long-time holder of the British carp record. His book is presented as the story of a single day's fishing on a carp lake, as it unfolds. It matters little that the formula is strained at times. Even the odd jaming note — and they are here - merely serves to highlight the quali-

The Secret Carp breathes out a love of water and light; a sense of other place and of unhinged time; a proper appreciation of the mystery of fishes. It will delight anyone who has ever fished for anything and enlighten anyone else who has wondered what the appeal of

angling might be.
There is, this year, a second book that is unusual for its reading quality. Somewhere down the Crasy River by Paul Boote and Jeremy Wade (Sangha Books, £18.95) is in many ways a saga from another age. It describes the authors' journeys through India for manseer and through Africa for tiger fish. I expected to find Livingstone and Corbett around every page. The book is filled with incident and atmosphere and is very

Quarry banked: the object of a specialist fisherman's quest, as illustrated in Chris Yates's atmospheric book The Secret Carp

much better than its garish jacket might suggest.
For those who prefer to fish in greater comfort and nearer

home, there is The English Chalk Streams, a beat-by-beat guide down the most famous trout rivers in Britain by Sidney Vines (Batsford Books, £19.99). For those who carnot decide where to fish for trout or who do not know how to fish for them, Fly-fishing for Trout by Peter Lapsley (Stanley Paul, £16.99) will answer most needs. Fly-tying, by Pat O'Reilly and Derek Hoskin Crowood Press, £9.99), a nofrills introduction to fur and feather at a sensible price, would fit into the same

Two anthologies are worth mentioning. The Big Fish, edited Arthur Oglesby and Lucy Money-Courts (Robinson Publishing, £14.95), gives the vicarious pleasure of landing other people's whoppers: and The Kingswood Book and Fishing edited by Tony Pawson (Kingswood Press. £16.99) collects some of the best of the rest of angling writing.

As usual, academics are well represented in the year's output — among them Barrie Rickards, professor of geology at Cambridge University, with Success with Pike (David and Charles, £15.99) and Dr C. B. McCully, a lecturer in English language and literature at Manchester University, with Fly-fishing: a Book of Words (Earcanet, £18.95).

Indeed, McCully's book

ranks as the most unusual fishing book in a long time. It gives the meanings and ori-gins - Old English, Old French, Saxon, Gaelic, Norse and Latin not excluded - of the hundreds of specialist words that make up the lexicon of fly-fishing. Dr McCully will not expect to make his fortune with so esoteric a work, but he has made an intriguing contribution to the ever-rolling

It is good, given the pres-sures on fishing that crowd in

on all sides, to be able to end on an optimistic note - especially a note to cheer the salmon angler. Tyne Waters a River and its Salmon by Michael W. Marshall (Witherby, £18.99), is the story of the death and resurrection of that great game river. The book is full of evocative tales, chilling facts and stirring illustrations. It lights again the lamp of hope - and in the depths of winter, with the darkness closing in, that is no mean lamp to

read any book by.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Regal Trophy draw produces further fixture congestion

By Christopher Irvine

addition to matches on Janu-WHEN the 35 member clubs ary 17 because of their unforvote at a special meeting on tunate pairing in the preliminary round of the Challenge Cup. January 6 on proposals for an even more congested programme next season, they might reflect on the chaos

To reduce the congestion. Wigan are prepared to gam-ble on rescheduling their home league match against Bradford Northern for February 7 and still send a team to fend their World Sevens title in Sydney that weekend.

Forecasters hold out little hope for tomorrow night's rearranged third round Regal

swathe of postponements to the league programme over the new year holiday period. (January 2) Bradford Northern or Widnes Castleford Wigan and Hull must now rearrange their fixtures for

Trophy game between Bradford Northern and Widnes. Should the frost persist, the tie will be staged next Tuesday, if necessary at Headingley. where there is undersoil heating. The winners will be at home to Castleford in the second semi-final on January

The system is teetering under the enormous burden of matches and a lengthy cold snap would produce a chaotic situation. The solution of the Rugby League Council, incredibly, is to expand the first division from 14 to 16 clubs and run the season from August 8 to mid-May.

Finance, not the consequences for players or the Great Britain side, appears the only motivation, to suggest a season in which a successful club could play as many as 50

Safety valve: Kelly, of the Buffalo Bills, gets rid of the ball on Sunday

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

Vikings lead dash to play-off places

League teams secured play-off positions on Sunday, led by the Minnesota Vikings, who won their division on the penultimate weekend of the season (Robert Kirley writes).

The Philadelphia Ragles, San Diego Chargers, Miami **Dolphins and Houston Oilers** also reached the play-offs. which begin on January 2. Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Dallas, San Francisco and New Orleans had previously earned post-season places. The two remaining positions will be decided next weekend: Washington or Green Bay, and Denver or Kansas City, the latter two deciding their fate

head to head. The Eagles and Vikings advanced with narrow wins on Sunday. Philadelphia staved off the defending Super Bowl champions, Washington, 17-13 to clinch a wildcard benth. The Redskins will stay alive only if Green Bay

and the Eagles help them by beating the New York Giants The Vikings beat Pittsburgh

6-3 on Fuad Reveiz's lastsecond field goal, a 36-yarder. Green Bay, despite their sixth Los Angeles Rams, must win in Minneapolis next week and have the Redskins or Eagles

San Diego became the first team to start a season with four defeats and reach the play-offs. They beat the Raiders 36-14 for their sixth consecutive win. John Carnev kicked five field goals.

Houston claimed their sixth successive play-off berth, the longest streak in the league. Miami, who best the New York Jets 19-17, can still win their division. John Elway returned from a shoulder injury and Denver stayed in contention by stopping a four-

January 1 and January 3. in Schofield plans court action

By Christopher Irvine

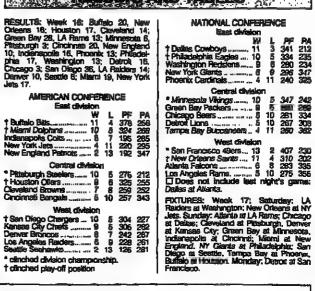
THE rift between Gary Schocompensation of £40,000.

Britain captain at Headingley yesterday. Doug Laughton, the Leeds coach, was insistent on him not joining Manly-Warringah in the close season. "Nobody told us he wanted to go there until he had signed his last contract. My aim is to see great players play, but back-to-back rugby these days is too much," Laughton

Schofield's claim that there is nothing in his contract club. Any action will be dis-



RESULTS AND TABLES



The Times writers select their favourite sports books of the past year

The day Lyle began to believe he could win again

ANTEREST PLATES

following his success in the Volvo Masters last month, that he is ready to start winning major golf championships again and resume his Ryder Cup career. His comeback after three frustrating years, during which he failed to notch a tournament victory

round of the Open Champ-

McDonnell, golf correspondent of the Daily Mail. explains how Lyle, despite hitting his one iron into the burn at the 1 st, jutted his chin out in determined fashion, and the roar that greeted the player as he left the 18th green demonstrated he was LAN ROSS

Howard Wilkinson and David Walker (Mainstream Publishing, £12.99) is a fasci-United is frank and occasionally rather poignant. Bearing

in mind recent developments at Elland Road, Wilkinson's appraisal of Eric Cantona, the French international forward, is pertinent. Stylishly written and with an endearing sense of humour.

CHRISTRYDE ...

THE Rugby League Challenge Cup by John Huxley (Guinness Publishing, £16.95) is a splendid anecdotal history of the contests for the sport's holy grail. Huxley recalls how Warrington hailed their 1905 hero, Jackie Fish, with cardboard fish cutouts on the end of poles; the

penalty for Wakefield in 1968; the near riot that, followed the five goals kicked by Fred "Bucket" Young, who won the 1910 replay for Leeds. He brings the story right up to date with the tale of Wigan's dominance and the feats of Offiah, Hanley, Gregory and Edwards.

BICHARD EVANS

enjoyed life as a tipster, owner and gambler but was at his best as a writer and journalist whose work went some way to paying for his less than profitable hobbies.

For racing education, turn to Martin Pipe: The Champion Trainer's Story (Headline

For hope of profit, Formdata (Racing Research, 21 Upper Green Lane, Hove Edge, Brighouse, Yorkshire) published each week (£19.50) is the best weapon in a

field and his club, Leeds, who have refused him permission to play in Australia in the summer, is likely to continue in the courts with a claim for In talks with the Great

preventing him playing in Australia is in a solicitor's letter now in the hands of the cussed today at the weekly meeting of the Leeds board. Hunslet, of the third divi-

sion, face a possible charge of bringing the game into disrepute and a £2,000 fine when officials appear before the Rugby Football League's board of directors on January 5 to explain the refusal of the club to play on a frosty pitch at Batley on Sunday after the referee had declared it

The Hull referee, Steve Cross, took to the field with the Batley players, who kicked off, watched by 200 bemused spectators, after Hunslet had refused to change. Fred Lindop, the league's director of referees, later inspected the ground at Hunslet's request, but also deemed it fit.

Graeme Liles, the Hunslet chairman, said yesterday: "We are prepared to risk a fine rather than the lives and livlihoods of our players." ☐ Amateur Rugby League has received more than £70,000 in grants from the Foundation For Sport And The Arts.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 32 RECIBIENDO

(b) A method of killing the ball by which the ballfighter receives the charging ball on the point of his sword, from the Spanish recibir to receive; Ernest Hemingway, natch; "He did kill several times recibiendo, receiving the ball on the sword in the old manner."

(b) In iconography, represented with hands clasped, as praying, also orant, from the Latin orans to pray: "Though the Trecento type, the seated Virgin with clasped hands, persists in the Quattrocento, it is the Virgin derived from the old orans type, of which the Antwerp Assumption is the earliest Italian example." SPINONE

(a) A wire-haired gun-dog of an Italian breed, usually white with tan or brown markings, drooping ears, and a docked tail: "The Spinone has for centuries been the Italian all-purpose shooting dog." "Breeds of dog whose docking is permitted by the Kennel Club are: sporting spaniels, Italian spinones, Weimeraners."

(a) Any of various designs of ladies' swimsuit which consist of three main areas of fabric (as pants and a separate covering for each breast), a punning mulformation from bikini: "Some ingenious fellow has just come up with a trikini, best described as a handkerchief and SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

The offside black queen is no match for the active white forces: l Nf4+! Kxg4 2 Bf3 mate.

SANDY Lyle is convinced,

and declined to play for Europe against the United States, has been well documented. But in A Round to Remember (Partridge Press, £16.99) Michael Mc-Donnell suggests an unexceptional score of 70 provided Lyle with the reason to believe in himself again. It came in the second

ionship at St Andrews in 1990. Lyle knew he needed a 70 to avoid missing the halfway cut as he had done in both the US Masters and the US Open earlier in the year.

on the road to recovery.

MANAGING to Succeed, by

nating insight into the world of football management While Wilkinson could hardly be said to totally bare his soul, as he recounts his transformation from long ball advocate to discerning purist, his account of how he approached the task of transforming both the fortunes and the image of Leeds

FOR racing humour, look no further than Winning Colours (Bellew Publishing £14.95). John Welcome's selected writings of Edgar Wallace are a joy. Wallace £16.99), which offers an excellent insight into the selftaught man who has turned national hunt racing upside

RUGBY UNION

Barbarians call up Lloyd to bolster their forward line

By David Hands, Rugby correspondent

STEVE Lloyd, who played so well for the Midlands in their final divisional match last weekend, is one of three new Barbarians who will play against Leicester at Welford Road next Monday. He is joined by Eric Peters, the Cambridge University cap-tain, and Lloyd Walker, the veteran Australian midfield player, who is spending the scason in Ireland.

Lloyd, the Moseley lock, is one of those players with dual qualifications whose drain to the other home countries is causing England some con-cern. He was born in Uruguay of a Welsh father and an English mother, parentage which gave him a place in the Wales under-21 squad three seasons ago and in the Welsh development squad announced last month.

He is keeping his options developed over the last 18 months into an extremely effective forward with the sec-ond division club. At 18st and 6ft 7in, he must be an attractive option for Wales, who are not well blessed with locks at the moment and have already selected one "Anglo" in Tony Copsey, now of Llanelli, but

than Peters, the No. 8 whose home club is Saracens, but

nine years younger than Walker, one of 12 internationals in the team. It would have been 13, but Scotland require Tony Stanger on their wing in Dublin the same day. The Australian was a late replacement in the injury-hit Walla-bies party in Wales in

The A international between Ireland and Scotland, and the East Wales v West Wales game of the same day have meant the exclusion of Irish and Welsh representa-tives from the Barbarian team, but several senior Scottish internationals are happy to play, among them Gary

Armstrong.
The Jed-Forest scrum half has recovered well from the damaged knee ligaments, which kept him out of last season's five nations' championship. He will enjoy the opportunity to set in motion a back_division including Franck Mesnel and Jean-

BARBARBARS

Scotland attempt to replace White

By Alan Lorimer

THE Scotland selectors have retained three of the players who shared in the narrow victory over Italy for the A game against Ireland in Dublin next Monday. The match. will act as the second in a series of three international

Appleson, Gregor Townsend and Carl Hogg. Hogg, who is moved from blind-side flanker to No. 8, is part of an untried back row that contains Dale McIntosh on the blind side and Iain Morrison on the open side flank. Hogg's inclu- the Reds team is John Kerr, of sion at No. 8 reflects the problem the selectors have to replace Derek White, given the absence, through injury, of Rob Wainwright

All three have been selected to play for the Blues (the senior side) in the Scotland trial on January 2, the teams for which were announced simulta-neously yesterday with the A souad.

Townsend and Appleson, with Ken Milne at hooker, Andrew Reed, the Bath lock, and Peter Wright the tighthead prop from Boroughmuir, are also named for both the A team and the Blues, the remaining places in the senior pack for the trial going to Damian Cronin and Alan Sharp, of Bristol.

Sharp, still recovering from injury, was not considered for the Dublin match and in his absence the selectors have opted for Alan Watt at loosehead prop. Scotland's insecure scrummaging against Italy is reflected in the demotion of

for the Boxing Day coupon.

PREMIER LEAGUE

1 Chelsea v South pton 2 Coventry v A Villa X C Palace v Wimbledon

Everton v Middlesbro

1 Man City v Sheff Utd I Norwich v Totlenham 1 Notin F v OPR 2 Sheff Wed v Man Utd

Not on coupons: Oldham

FIRST DIVISION

X Birmingham v Sunderli'd

A partitional v Surbern
Brentford v Derby
2 Bristol C v Oxford
2 Cambridge U v Paterbor
X Chartton v West Ham
2 Grimsby v Barnaley
1 Leicester v Notis Co
X Luton v Swindon
X Manucaster v Workes
1 Poyteron th v Bristol B

t Portemouth y Bristol R

FORM is often turned upside down over the Christmas period, so it sometimes pays to act on hunches, four of which can

be found in my treble chance selections

Leeds United, out of sorts this season.

especially away from home, can give

themselves some Christmas cheer by

drawing at Blackburn Rovers, who are

SECOND DIVISION

2 Blackoool v Bradford C

1 Bolton v Wigan

1 Brighton v Burnley 2 Exeter v Plymouth

1 Hartieppol v Hull

X Hudd'field v Preston

1 Rotherham v Stockport

THIRD DIVISION

2 Chest'field v Lincoln

Crown v Wigorum

2 Darlington v Carlisle

1 Halling v Doncaster

2 Hereford v Shrewsbury

2 North'pton v Colchester

x Ripoliciale v Strutthorpe

2 Scarborough v Barnet

1 Leyton O v Futham

1 Reading v Stoke

1 Cardill v York

Peter Jones, of Gloucester, who is not even named as a game, and of Paul Burnell, who has been selected for the

Burnell, however, may be in the Reds front row purely to test Sharp, who, as yet, has been watched only in district games. As well as contenders studies in crucial positions will also be scrutinised by Scotland's selectors in the Dublin

the third divison club, Haddington. Kerr, however, deserves his inclusion in the trial for Edinburgh in the games against the Scottish Exiles and against South. Chris Gray and Derek Turnbuli will also appear in the trial game without playing in either of the

Without playing in either of the two A matches.

Scottand A: K Logan String County! A Sanger (Swing County! A Sanger (Hawde, G Townsend (Gelet, I Jurdine (String County), M Appleson (London Scotten); G Shiel (Metross), A Nicol (Dundee Hoh School FP, captain); A Watt (Gespow High/Kehnrsde), K Minne (Hardris FP), P Winght (Boroughmun); D McIntosh (Portypriod), A Peed (Bath), S Munne (Bospow High/Kehnrsde), I Mornimar (London Scottish), C Hogg (Metrose), Heplacements; J Kerr (Haddington), D Millard (London Scottish), A Macdonald (Henc's FP), G Wilson (Boroughmun), M Soot (Edmburgh Academicals).

RELAND A: C Wilsono (Malone): C Leehy (Wanderers), B Walsh (Cork Constitution), B Glernon (Larsdowne), N Woods (Blactrock Coflege); N Malone (Oxford University), A Sanders (London Insh); P Soden (Cork Constitution).

Pattern (Origon University, Captern), G Halpin (London Insh); L Dirnsen (Cork Constitution), D Tweed (Ballymens), R Costello (Garryowen), K McKee (Instonians), B Contin (Garyowen), Replacemente: A White (St Mary's Cullege), P Burke (London Insh), A Macchest (Ballymens), S McKinty (Bangor), P Millar (Bellymens), S McKinty (Bangor), P Millar (Bellymens), W Mulcarly (Sterriee).

Baptiste Lafond, the Frenchmen who are becoming seasonal regulars for the Baabaas, though Mesnel has a thigh injury and missed his club's match on Sunday.

John Olver, the Northamp ton hooker who strained a medial knee ligament in the divisional match on Saturday, is optimistic that he will be fit to play against Leicester, who will welcome the removal next season of the divisional championship from Decem-ber to October. Placed as it is, the championship plays havoc with their preparation for the holiday match, which retains an affectionate place in the calendar and is a prized

objective for Leicester players. Dean Richards, who has contrived to miss five Barbarian games, hopes to play for Kardooni, who damaged a rib cartilage in the first divisional match of the month.

□ Ireland's international panel of referees will be unchanged for the new year. Stephen Hilditch retains his ranking in first place, though he must be content with handling the Irish trial on January 3, while Brian Stir ling will referee England v March 6 and Owen Doyle will handle France v Wales in Paris on March 20.

Draw suits Wales in **World Cup**

By CHRIS THAU

WALES, the only team from the British Isles not to earn an automatic place in the 1995 World Cup finals in South Africa, face what appears to be an easy qualification passage.

Wales were drawn to meet the winners of a pool comprising Portugal, Spain, Belgium and Switzerland by the Feder-ation International du Rugby Amateur (Fira) at the weekend. Switzerland usually play in the second division of the competition, but reached this stage by defeating Andorra and Denmark in October.

Nine of the 16 finalists have been granted exemption from qualifying - England, Scot-land and Ireland, who all reached the quarter-finals in 1991, along with New Zealand, Australia, France, Westem Samoa. Canada and South Africa. Three of the other seven will come from Europe, with one qualifier each from Africa, the Americas, Asia and the South

Parific With Canada assured of a place, the United States look likely to miss out. They contest the one remaining qualifying place from the Americas with Argentina. South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong threaten Japan's place, and with it their hopes of staging the 1999 tournament.

Scott Gibbs, the Swanses and Wales centre, is doubtful for the match between East Wales and West Wales next Monday because of shin

POOLS FORECASTS



Success fuels Faldo's desire

By MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK Faldo will begin the new year as the undisputed world No. 1 golfer, and with an unwavering desire to remain at the top of his

His success in the Johnnie Walker world championship at Montego Bay in Jamaica on Sunday brought the curtain down on a wonderful year for the sport. Fred Couples gave a magnificent performance in winning the Masters; Tom Kite thoroughly deserved his US Open triumph at the age of 42; and Nick Price gained recompense for several near misses when he won the US

PGA championship. Faldo, however, stayed centre stage for the best part of the year. He won the Open Championship for a third time, as well as four other tournaments in Europe, and he holds a commanding lead of more than seven points at the top of the Sony world: rankings. He has no inten-tion of relinquishing his position.

Even so, Greg Norman, who lost to Faldo in a play-off on Sunday, is determined to push Faldo all the way next

DIADORA LEAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

35 2 Bognor v Stevenage 36 1 Cars fon v Aylesby 37 1 Chesham v Hendon 38 1 Enfield v Winder 39 X Grays v Bromley

SCOTTISH PREMIER

Ab 1 Abertiaen v Dundes 41 1 Andris v Paleth 42 1 Dundes U v S Jingfin 43 2 Hibemian v Hisems 44 X Partick v Motherwell 45 2 Rangers v Cettic

SCOTTISH FIRST

45 2 Ayr v Klimansok; 47 1 Clydeb'k v Dumberto 48 1 Cowd no'th v M dok k 49 2 Duffermine v Ragi 20 X Monton v St Minner 51 X String v Hamilton

SCOTTISH SECOND

52 1 Allon v East File 53 1 Arboeth v Fortar 54 2 Berwick v Sterhimur 54 2 Cycle v E String 15 2 Montrow v Bracht 57 1 O'n o' Sin v Stranger 58 1 Queen's Park v Albon

perhaps ignore Luton Town's wretched home form when they entertain Swindon Town. Luton have improved enough

lately to force a draw against inconsis-

The surprise in Scotland could be in

the premier division, where Dundee may

take a home point from Britain's out-

standing team, Rangers.

Park Rangers v Swindon (Monday): Sheffield United v Burrley, Swanses v Ox-ford: West Brom v West Harn; Yeoval v Antaron

FIRST DIVISION

Not on coupons: Bir-mingham v Peterborough SECOND DIVISION

16 1 Bradierd v Mansfield 17 2 Chester v Leyton O THIRD DIVISION

16 1 Yorquey v Scarboro 19 1 York v Cartisle

CONFERENCE

CORP-ENERGE
20 2 Boston v Degenhern
21 1 Genunheed v Surhord
22 1 Kettering v Teiford
23 1 Merthyr v Kdriminster
24 X Runcorn v Albrindsam
25 1 Stalytings v Northwich
16 1 Wilgon v Miscolespiele
HPS LIOWNE I EAGUE

PREMIER DIVISION

there." Norman was justifi-The Australian was heartened by his last round of 63 at Tryall. He said: "I know I didn't come away with the chempionship, but I did everything to prove to myself

that I'm back. "Nick Faldo is good, very week of the year," Norman

good, but I gave him five shots on the last day and I did LEADING FINAL POSITIONS (US unless stated): 1, N Feldo (GB), 23,84 points average; 2, F Couples, 16,27; 3, 1 Woosnern (GB), 13,14; 4, J M Olazábel (Sp), 12,87; 5, G Norman (Aus), 12,83; 6, B Langer (Ge), 12,44; 7, J Cook, 11,68; 8, N Price (Zim), 11,51; 9, P Azinger, 10,83; 10, D Love III, 10,75; 11, T Kits, 10,17; 12, M O'Meara, 9,49; 13, S Bellesteros (Sp), 9,44; 14, R Floyd, 9,35; 15, M Ozald (Japan), 9,17; 16, C Pavin, 8,91; 17, B Lietzke, 8,46; 18, S Elliciption (Aus), 7,77; 18, M McNutty (Zim), 7,53; 20, C Montgomerie (GB), 7,48. LEADING FINAL POSITIONS (US during the impressed by that as I

His approach to the game is

ing, and he is strong in every department.
"But I think he does have flaws. Nobody is ever perfect, nobody ever will be in this game, and his putting does let him down at times. Nick is

know because I've been

catch

round.

His

am by his

discipline.

outstand-

No. 1 right now, no question about it, but the hardest thing is to stay there. You always want to knock the guy who is No. 1 off his perch. I ably proud of his performance, and he agreed that playing with Faldo improved his commitment. "I would like to tee-up on

said. "He's a

own

Faldo ac-

the last day with him every

great player to play with because he goes about business." knowledged that Norman pushed limit. "It wasn't like

last July when I actually played badly for a while," Faldo said. "We both played really well, and Greg could have shot 60.

"I was determined to hang in because I wanted so much to end what is probably my best year with the world championship.

"I made it but it was a dose-run thing."

the clubs away for five weeks. which is almost a life sentence to him. However, he will prepare for 1993 by exercising so as to be both physically and mentally alert for his return to the fairways at the Dubai Desert Classic

at the end of January. The world championship was an unqualified success. Faido's victory, after that by Couples 12 months ago, has given the event a wonderful start, and it will continue to grow in staining.

There is no likelihood of the championship being regarded as the fifth major. What it can achieve is a position of its own, and the prospect of that will be enhanced if, like the Masters, it has a permanent home.

The Tryall course, where the championship will again be played next year, has its critics. The rough is grown unmercifully high in places, and must be cut down for

Otherwise, the changes made during 1992 served only to strengthen the course, and the final round on Sunday provided a compel-His intention now is to ling curtain-drop which will relax. Faldo says he will put live long in the memory. ICE HOCKEY

Panthers ... send off **Dampier** in style

NOTTINGHAM Panthers gave Alex Dampier, their coach, the best possible sendoff as he left them to join Sheffield Steelers. They had a three point weekend, sharing 16 goals with Billingham Bombers and beating Whitley Warriors 10-6. Saturday's draw was a nota-

ble achievement as the bomb-ers led 8-2 midway through the second period, but a fourgoal last period earned the point. On Sunday, the Panthers gained their first win in Whitley Bay for three years and their first double-figure score in nearly two months. As among a number of players. Cardiff Devils continue to

thrive and took their unbeaten league and cup run to 15 with a 7-4 success over the Wasps. The Devils lead the premier division of the Heinken League by three points over the Warriors. Basingstoke Beavers maintained their dominance of the first division with wins over Swindon Wildcats and Slough Jets.

MOTOR RACING

Senna will not race **Indy Cars**

YESTERDAY

RESULTS

14. 60 24. 60 27. 24. 25. 27.

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AYRTON Senna, who has been world champion three times, drove an Indy Car for the first time at the weekend but seems unlikely to follow Nigel Mansell out of Formula

Senna drove a Chevrolet 1992 car in Phoenix on Sunday as a guest of Emerson Fittipaldi, himself a former Formula One champion, who is now a member of Roger

Penske's racing team. There have been rumours that Senna, like Mansell, may switch to Indy Cars, but Dan Luginbuhl, of Team Penske, said that Senna was simply curious about the Indy cars because he had never driven

Senna said: "It is fun to drive. Its most impressive factor was its ability to go into the corner and the load stayed centered. The car was balanced and I could carry the speed through the corner."

Senna was upset through-out the last Formula One season about the superiority of the Williams-Renault cars, driven by Mansell and Ricardo Patrese, which outclassed the McLaren-Honda cars, which the Brazilian and Gerhard Berger drove.

Mansell, the reigning world champion, will race for the Newman-Haas Indy Car team next season after an acrimonious split with the Williams-Renault team.

OVERSEAS FOOTBALL

Italian failings hearten the Scots

BY PETER ROBINSON

IT WAS enough to have Andy Roxburgh reaching for the malt and savouring an early new year toast. A World Cup campaign that has already run into trouble had been given an unexpected boost

from a most unlikely source. When Italy were drawn in the same qualifying group as Roxburgh's Scotland, they were the hottest of favourites to reach the finals in 1994. Two edgy draws against Switzerland and the Scots lengthened their odds slightly, but the Italians were still expected to get into their stride in Malta at the weekend.

Instead, though, they struggled. A lucky 2-I win at the Ta Qali stadium was not what Italy were looking for against the Maltese and, though it lifted them to second place in the group table, it has shattered their confidence. So bad was the performance that Arrigo Sacchi, the coach, felt obliged to apologise to a

from the victory, but that is not enough." He did not disagree with Maltese complaints that Italy had been very lucky. A dismal first half was forgotten, briefly, when Vialli

and Signori opened a two-goal lead just after the hour. Then, however, Baresi, playing again after "retiring" from international football, handled inside the penalty area and was rightly sent off. Pagliuca saved the spot-kick, but, from then on, Malta held the momentum. Gregory pulled one back, but they could not add an equaliser.

The result re-opened the debate in Italy about the effects overseas players are having on the national team. Standards in the league may have risen, but as the imports have grown in number, so Italy have, increasingly, disappointed. Marco van Basten's third European Footballer of the Year award at the weekend

has simply fuelled the debate. The Dutchman, similarly honoured in 1988 and 1989. is, of course, with AC Milan, although it is likely to be midMarch before the wears their shirt again this season. He underwent an operation on damaged cartilage in an ankle operation in St Moritz yesterday and although it was deemed a success, his recovery is likely to be slow. Jean-Pierre Papin, the Frenchman, will replace him in the Milan side.

Africa was also concerned with World Cup matters at the weekend, with the Premier League combination of Peter Ndlovu and Bruce Grobbelaar again to the fore. The Zimbabweans from respectively. Coventry City and Liverpool, have been out-standing for their country of late and were again on Sunday in a fine 2-1 defeat of Egypt in Group C. Ndlovu scored Zimbabwe's opening

goal in Harare while Grobbelaar ensured the win with a series of brilliant late saves. Most impressive of the other results was Ghana's 2-0 defeat of Algeria in Group A. In Spain, there are fears for the future of the Real Madrid manager, Benito Floro, after a heated 2-0 defeat at Sevilla.

Four players were sent off three from Real - as Diego Maradona gave his best display since returning to the game in Seville after a 15month suspension. "I gave Floro everything he

wanted, but the team's performances remain disastrous." was the ominous comment of Real's president, Ramon Mendoza.

News of Barcelona's progress cannot have helped Mendoza's mood. They had two players sent off --Stoichkov, booked twice in the first five minutes, and Koeman - but still drew 3-3 with Rayo Vallecano. Stoichkov, second in the European Footballer of the Year voting, yesterday won the Bulgarian player of the year award for the fourth year.

Auxerre are the surprise leaders in France, as the winter break begins, after a 4-I home win over Le Havre. But, as ever, Marseilles grabbed the headlines with a spiteful 1-0 win at Paris Saint-Germain that earned them five bookings.

1 4 4 - 'T in with the · Ingary.

OBO I I GOSTA SALES 122 BACING WI ANNIA

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Arsenal, Blackburn, Crystal Palace, Birmingharn, Charlton, Luton, Newcastle, Rochada, Torquay, Bashley, Chelmstord, Dundee BEST DRAWS: Arsenal, Crystat Palace, Luron, Rochdate, Torquay AWAYS: Aston Villa, Manichester United, Peterborough, Bradford City, Carlisle.

X Torquay v Walsali HOMES: Chelsea, Morwich, Leicester, Portsmouth, Boumemouth, Port Vala, West Brom, Cardiff, Burton, Celtic, St Johnstone, Kimamock. FDXED ODDS: Homes: Chelsea, Leicester, Portsmouth, Port Vale, Burton. Aways: Aston Villa, Manchester United, Aberdean. Draws: Luton, Rochdale, Torquay.

15 1 Wimbledon v Everon Not on coupons; Blackburn v Bournemouth; Bolton v Everpool (Sunday);
Brighton v Portsmouth;
Crews v Nestre; Gallangham
v Huddeutheld; Hantlepool
v Crystal Palace; bewich v
Plymouth; Manchester United v Wigen or Bury;
Marlow v Tottenham (st
Tottenham); Middlesbrough v Chelses (Sunday); Northampton v
Rosherheth; Notten For v
Sthriptin (Sun); Outens

finding the net less frequently these days.
At first glance Wolverhampton Wanderers, who have lost their last two

games, do not have much hope at

Newcastle United. However, their away

record is good and Newcastle, despite a lead of ten points in the first division,

In the same division you should

FA CUP
THIRD ROUND
T X A VIII a V Brestof R
2 1 Brentord v Grinstov
3 X Cambriga U v Shafi W
4 1 Derby v Stockport
5 1 Leeds v Chariton
6 2 Lecester v Barnaley
7 1 Luton v Bristol C
8 1 Man City v Reading

71 Litton v Bristol C 81 Man Crty v Reading 91 Newcastle v Port Vale 10 X Norwich v Coventry 112 Notes Co v Sunderland 12 2 Olchwar v Transmore 13 1 Southend v Misheal 14 2 Wastord v Wolves 15 1 Windledon v Everoni Met. on anymore. Disch

have faltered themselves recently.

BEAZER HOMES LGE

PREMIER DIVISION

2 Atherstone v Corby X Bashley v Water/ville 1 Burton v VS Rugby X ChelmsFd v Camb'ge C

SCOTTISH PREMIER

1 Celic v Dundee thd X Dundee v Rangers 1 Fellaris v Hoorman 1 Hearts v Partick 2 Motunwell v Absolute 1 St Johnstope v Aardrie

SCOTTISH FIRST

2 Dumberton v Morton 1 Hamilion v Cowdenbith 1 Kilmernock v Dunifmilne

Not on coupons: Meadowbank v String; Raith v Ayr; St Mirren v Ctyclebank

SCOTTISH SECOND

Not on coupons: Alba v Albion: Arbroath v Ber-wick East File v Stramaer, East Stirling v Brechin; Fortar v Montrose; Queen's Park v

PREMIER DVVSION

27 X Accregin v Morec'be

28 2 Cacriny © Frickley

29 2 Droysaden v Colveyn B

30 X Emiley v Genstoor

31 2 Goole v B Auckland

32 2 Horwich v Southport

33 1 Leak v Whatey Bay

84 X Winstool V Barrow TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Aston Villa, Cambridge, Norwich, Runcom, According, Emiley, Winstord, Greye, Hibernian, Partick, Morion, Strling, BEST DRAWS: Cambridge, Norwich, Winstord, Hibernian, Morion.
AWAYS: Sunderland, Leyton Orient, Dagerhant, Southport, Stevenage, HOMES: Leeds, Luton, Manchester Cdy.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Leeds, Luton, Gateshead, Enfield, Clyde, Aways: Layton Orient, Department, Stavenage Draws: Cambridge, Winsford, Hibernian.

disbelieving Italian public "I want to say sorry because we really played badly." he said. "Sure we got two points ☐ Vince Wright

Panthe Send

Murphy on Bradbury Star in Kempton showpiece

BY PHIL MCLENNAN

DECLAN Murphy is expected to partner Bradbury Star in the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Saturday with Richard Dunwoody coming in for the ride on stable

companion Deep Sensation.

Murphy chose correctly between the pair when riding Deep Sensation to victory in last month's H & T Walker Gold Cup at Ascot but this time appears to have had the decision made for him by trainer Josh Gifford.

"Richard Durwoody has confirmed his availability for Deep Sensation and he will ride that one with Declan on Bradbury Star." Gifford said. "I haven't spoken to Declan but, unless anything unto-ward happens, that is the way it will stay."

Murphy, however, insisted that no decision had been made. "I believe I have the choice and I haven't made up my mind," he said. "But if the

Hereford lost to frost

TODAY'S meeting at Here-ford became the fourteenth National Hunt card to fall victim to the weather this season when it was aban-

doned yesterday.
John Williams, clerk of the course, said: "There is a heavy frost in the ground, and we couldn't have raced today. Another night's frost is forecast, so we have decided to

abandon now." Yesterday's meeting at Ed-inburgh was called off for the same reason but the National Hunt meeting at Lingfield

survived an inspection.
The Surrey course holds centre stage again today with an all-weather Flat programme before racing takes a three-day Christmas break.

>CHEEP

Inditi

ground was on the faster side, it would take a lot to persuade me to get off Bradbury Star." The Kempton going, which officially changed from soft to good to soft yesterday, should ensure that Murphy rides the

However, yesterday's market moves suggest there will be little between the pair. Lad-

second favourite.

brokes pushed Bradbury Star at 5-4 on but the Tote, Corais out half a point to 11-2 while Deep Sensation was cut from

Following the news that Peter Scudamore would ride, Kings Fountain was another popular each-way choice with the same firm, his price con-tracting from 10-1 to 7-1. Ladbrokes keep The Fellow

BIG-RACE ACCEPTORS

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT

2.20 KING GEORGE VI CHASE

(CHC	RUB 1. 24	4,300: 3m) (11 mg-day acceptors)	-
1	1121-13	BRADBURY STAR (C.BF) (J Campbell) J Giffort 7-11-10	D Maral
2	110-44	COUL BHOURD (D) (Whiteombs Maner 120 G Baiding 10-11-10	doubt
3	14-2212	DEEP SENSATION (BF) (A Elion J Stillard 7-11-10	R Davison
4	25134-3	DOCKLANDS EXPRESS (CD) RPI (R Paintel) K Railey 10.11.10	A To
5	21111-25	KINGS FOUNTAIN (E Banks) K Balley 9-11-10	P Studients
8	47111-22	MANNEHOMA (D.BF) (F Sam) M Pipe 9-11-10	
7	1123-22	PAT'S JESTER (D) (6 Adam) R Allen 9-11-10	
8	18F11/	ROYAL ATHLETE (D) (G Joinson) Mrs J Pliman 9-11-10	do.00
9	220-113	THE FELLOW (CD) (Marquesa de Moralalia) F Doumes (Fr) 7-11-10	. A Knode
10	P1-4150	THE ILLYWHACKER (J Hilphins) Mrs J Pliman 7-11-10	M Pitre
17	9-41113	TEPPING TOU (D,BP) (Mrs. J. Mandel) N. Teledon-Davies. 7-11-10	Glinani
BET	TING: H	illis: Evens The Fellow, 9-2 Bractoury Star, 5-1 Kinga Fouri Bs. 10-1 Deep Sensation, Tipping Tim, Pats Jester, 25-1 Ti 1: THE FELLOW 6-11-10 A Kondrat (10-1) F Dournen (Fr	iain, 8-1 Dock

Daswaki to complete treble

AFTER winning his first trainers' championship, Rich-ard Hannon could have been forgiven for taking things easy. However, any rivals hoping he would shut up shop for the winter have been

disappointed. Hannon has been chasing winners on the all-weather as keenly as he did at Ascot and Newmarket in the height of summer and he should be on target again with Daswaki, who is napped to win the Alma Handicap at Lingfield

today. The four-year-old is looking for his third victory in three weeks and did not have a hard race when bearing Kissavos by five lengths over seven furlongs here last week. A 5lb penalty should not be enough to prevent him following up and he will not be inconvenienced by the return to a mile, the distance over which he won at the end of

Mulciber, who sprang a 20-1 surprise when beating previous winner Khrisma here last week, can also go in again although at not such rewarding odds.

Lord Huntingdon can take the Inkerman Nursery Handi-cap with Pipers Reel, who won a weak-looking maiden at Southwell with sufficient authority to suggest that he can follow up here.

The luck of the draw could prove the key to the two

divisions of the Thin Red Line Maiden Stakes with victories for Stalled and Sporting

about the French challenger

about the French Chauenger emulating Pendil, Captain Christy, Silver Buck, Wayward Lad and Desert Orchid by

Hills, who cut the favourite

from 11-10, reported strong

each way support for Scottish

challenger Pat's Jester, now a 10-1 chance from 14-1. Dick Allan's nine-year-old was well beaten by Twin Oaks

on testing ground at Haydock earlier this month but the

Comhill-on-Tweed trainer is

confident of a better showing

beach at Bamburgh today and he'll give a good account of himself if the ground stays good to soft," Allan said. "Neale Doughty's coming down to ride."

Royal Athlete, withdrawn

from his intended comeback

at Nottingham on Saturday,

down to ride.

"He worked well on the

winning the race in success

Missile. After an encouraging debut behind Azilian at Doncaster, Stalled was made favourite at Lingfield three weeks ago. However, an unfavourable high draw probably put paid to his chances and he was beaten eight lengths into fifth behind Eastern Memories. This time he has the inside

berth and that could well make all the difference. It was a similar story for

Sporting Missile, who was two places behind Stalled on his debut in the same Lingfield race. He never got into contention on that occasion but also has the benefit of stall one

Katabatic gallop will determine objective

ANDY Turnell will gallop stable star Katabatic today before deciding whether to take on old rival Wateriot Boy in the grade one Castleford Chase at Wetherby next week.

"T'm 99 per cent happy with him," Turnell said yesterday. "He must be coming back to form, he dropped me this morning."

Turnell demonstrated the well-being of his stable when

Giventime put up an excellent performance to defy top weight in the Plum Pudding Novices' Handicap Hurdle at Lingfield yesterday. Carrying 12 stone, he drew clear of the favourite Andrews Minstrel to win by 15 lengths.

Jeff Daniels, the owner of Prosequendo, collected £20,000 from bookmaker Vic-tor Chandler following the five-year-old's victory in the Brandy Butter Conditional Jockeys Handicap Hurdle. Daniels backed his faith in trainer Mark Dixon with hard

cash, striking three bets with Victor Chandler on how many winners the Epsom stable would turn out during 1992. Prosequendo has been re-sponsible for all except one of

Dixon's seven wins, although he had luck on his side yesterday, being left clear when the challenging favour-ite, Djebel Prince, toppled

over at the last. "I won £10,000 when Mark saddled five winners and another £20,000 today when Prosequendo made it seven," Daniels said. "The final bet and a possible extra £10,000, is for nine winners. Time is running out but Mark thinks Dr Zeva-will go well here tomorrow. If he wins, we'll go all out for one more."

Roland O'Sullivan, the Bognor Regis trainer, continued his good run when Scotoni landed the Holly and Ivy Novices' Chase.



Master of spin: Border scotched the threat offered by Mushtaq's leg breaks

Border foils Pakistanis

vived the wiles of the leg spinner. Mushtaq Ahmed, and the pace and swing of Wasim Akram to steer Queenstand to a lead of 210 over the Pakistanis after three days of the four-day match

The Australian captain proved his recovery from a namstring injury, which had kept him out of action for two weeks, by scoring an unbeaten 71 as Queensland reached 318 for five in their second innings. The Pakistanis had declared their first innings at 368 for six soon after Asif Mutjaba had completed his

century. Queensland, who should be in a position to set a testing target on the final day, soon wiped out their deficit of 108 as opening batsman batsman Trevor Barsby tore into the fast bowlers. After he had been dismissed by Mushtaq for a whirlwind 116. Border showed why he is regarded as one of the world's best players of spin bowling, using his feet to combat Mushtaq, who had taken the first three wickets, after surviving four of the quickest balls of the match, delivered by Akram.

The New Zealand all-rounder, Chris Cairns, recovering from a kidney operation, has withdrawn from the forthcoming series of one-day internationals against Pakistan. New Zealand Cricket said that Cairns did not feel he was sufficiently fit to take part.

Cairns, who had the operation in the recent series in Sri Lanka.

shortly after completing a season with Nottinghamshire, will be replaced by Michael Owens, who made his debut

New Zealand are due to play three one-day interna-

tionals and a Test match against Pakistan between December 26 and January 6. OLICENSLAND: First Innings 250 (M I Hayden 79, T J Bareby 53; Musintaq Ahmed 4 for 70).

Second Innings

T J Barsby c Schail b Mushtaq

M L Hayden c Mutjeba b Mushtaq

P J Goggin c Muqieba b Mushtaq

S G Law c Rashid b Alersin

A R Border not out

D M Welthem run out torey not out ras (D2 Ib4, nb9, w1)

Total (5 Wicks) 318
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-101, 2-157, 3-160, 4174, 5-301
BOWLING: Akram 21-7-43-1, Aarub 12-24-0, Anjum 11-0-70-0, Mushtag 23-2-1003, Shahiti 7-0-31-0, Aarur 2-0-19-0, Murjaba 5-1-15-0.

Total (6 wkts dec) 388 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-116, 2-178, 3-305, 4-325, 5-360, 6-360. BOWLING. McDermot: 25-4-95-1, Rowel 25-8-68-0. Kasprowicz: 24-6-70-2, Storey 21-1-105-1, Law 8-4-12-1, Border 3-0-16-0.

W Indians

lose out

to weather

Raju spins closer to Test selection

FROM RICHARD STREETON IN EAST LONDON

AFTER a frenetic 15 days. with eight one-day games in different cities, the Indians began a three-day match against a South African Students XI here yesterday. It is their last fixture before the third Test in Port Elizabeth starting on Boxing Day.

This none too taxing occasion gives the Indians a chance to get used to a red ball again. The South African Test team has dispersed and will only reassemble for nets on Christmas Day afternoon. The Indians are thinking about playing three spin bowlers at St George's Park where the pitch could lack pace and might become worn by the third day.

Kumble was rested but Raju and Shastri, the left arm slow bowlers, were given plenty of work as the Students XI were dismissed for 174. As early as the eighth over, Raju began an uninterrupted first spell of 21 overs, which brought him three for 29. He turned the ball considerably and kept everyone subdued. A field left wet by rain initially handi-capped the quicker bowlers but Srinath bowled two good

spells later. Srinath, who could be the man omitted if Raju plays in the Test, ended a patient 61 in 67 overs by the left handed Neil Johnson, the mainstay of the students' innings.

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES: First Innings
M Venter o More b Raju 6
P Benerd Ibw b Sansain 3
A Johnson b Smarth 61
S Pope o Azharustich b Raju 0
J Payn Ibw b Sharma 2
E Stewart b Raju 11
D Lang c and b Shastri 2
R Veenstra c and b Shastri 0
S Abraharre not out 35
M Hanchara c Stepane b Raju 11
A Hudde c and b Tendulker 5
Extres (b 5, rb 12, w 2) 19
Total 174 Total 174 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-6, 2-20, 3-20, 4-25, 5-55, 6-107, 7-109, 8-133, 9-164.

55, 6-107, 7-109, 8-133, 9-194.

BOMLING: Benerice 12-3-29-0; Smeath 13-2-28-2; Reiu 33-13-63-4; Sharma 11-2-25-1; Shaemi 16-2-1-2; Tenchuleu 35-1-9-1.

BNDIANS: First hinings

H J Shaemi not out

W V Reman not out

© bares (no 2)

Total (no wki)

6

Bendigo: Persistent rain forced the abandonment of the West Indians' four-day match against Victoria here yesterday to deny the touring team valuable practice for the second Test in Melbourne, starting on Boxing Day.

No play was possible on the first two days and a third electrical storm struck again. soaking the pitch. The um-pires, Paul Jensen, Darrell Holt and Bill Sheahan, decided there would be no chance of play either yesterday or today. The West Indians have had no first-class cricket since the first Test in Brisbane earlier

this month. The other main loser was the Victorian batsman, Dean Jones, who missed an opportunity to further his Test claims. Jones has had only three first-class innings in the season and is struggling to retain his place in the Test 12, which will be named today. Shane Warne is tipped to come in at the expense of

THE * TIMES

BOXING

McMillan takes charge

COLIN McMillan, the former World Boxing Organis-ation featherweight champion, is to manage Britain's newest professional boxer, Adrian Dodson.

The two are close friends and McMillan believes he can successfully combine a career inside and outside the ring. Nevertheless, McMillan said at yesterday's launch at a London college: where Dodson he is studying for a degree in business administration: "If ever my career [inside the ringl is compromised, we

shall go our separate ways." Dodson, 22, a Guvanaborn Londoner, will operate at

light-middleweight, even though he fought at welterweight last summer at the Olympic Games in Barcelona. where he was tipped to win a medal before losing unexpect-

His agent, Ambrose Mendy, said Dodson could make his debut on the undercard of Riddick Bowe's world heavyweight title de-fence against Mike Dokes in New York on February 6. Dodson is being backed by a consortium of so-far unnamed professional sportsmen and Mendy said he had been guaranteed £800,000 over

three years.

edly in his second bout.

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A STATE OF THE STA

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Lingfield Park Going: heavy (second flight in back straight, final flight, fifth fence and open drich omitted)
12.50 (2m 110)rd) 1, COULDNT BE BETTER (G Bredley, 4-9 lav); 2, Old Bridge (S McNeil, 33-1), 3, Despendable (R Durwoody, 5-1) ALSO RAN, 6 The Glow (5th), 25 Fevelench First (6th), 33 Cetic Spark (4th), 100 Belmy Breaze, Class Mats, Rosen The Beau 9 ran, NR: Captain Ging Hd. 4, 10, 3, 3, C Brooks at Upper Lambourn. Total: Et 40: E1.10, E5.30, E1.20, DF:

The Beau 9 ren. NH: Captain Gring Hd. 44, 101, 23, 54. C Brooks at Upope Lambourn. Tote: P.1 40; P.1.10, P.5.30, P.1.20. DF; ESB OD. CSF. P.14 87. ...
1.00 (2m ch) 1, SCOTTONI (D O'Sulfiven, 4-1); 2, Atland (R Durrecody, 5-1), 3, Nathiri (A Maguire, 16-1), ALSO RAN: 10-11 tray Social Corribor, 14 Edimbourg (f), Star Of Oughterard (Sth), 25 Kinty Buffer (4th), 33 Don't Yer Know (pu), Glass Capte (bd), 50 King Pipper (pu), Hot Less (bu), 56 Billybutre (8th), 12 ran. 14, 151, 20, Cat. 3, R O'Sulfiven et Bogntor Regal. Tote: 08.50; P.1.20, P.1.20 DF; 25.80 CSF, 223 69. 1.30 CP. 100, dhaft at Bogntor Regal. Tote: 08.50; P.1.20, P.1.30 CP. 130, White Control of P. 100, P.10, P. 100, P.10, P. 100, P.

236 64.
2.00 (3m) 1, JUST MOSS (R Durwoody, 15-2); 2. Diamond Fort (S McNell, 11-5 (3x); 3, Mester Ed (D Momis, 12-1) ALSO RAN 11-4 Homms D'Alfagre (4n), 4 Popes-wood (5th), 25 Durraven Royal (pu) 8 ran. 13 hd, 10, nk. R Rows at Pulborough Tote 59.00, 25.00, \$1.40 DF, 211.30. CSF 217.55

217 53
2.30 (2m 31 110yd hdie) 1, BUONARROTI
(T Granthern, Evens fav). 2. Tree Pooply (3
Bradley, 2-1), 3. Hats High (M Crosse, 6-1)
ALSO RAN, 8 it's Versiden (5th), 16 Spender
Gebe (4th) 5 ton 41, 125, 5t, dest J Old at
Wiccoption Tote £1 90; £1,30, £1,50. DF.
E1 80. CSF £3,31
3,00 (2m) 1, THE GREEN STUFF (R
Supple, 9-2), 2. Pleastic Spaceage (1
Granthern, 2-5 fev), 3. Greenheart (P
Holley, 5-1), Nh, dist J Upson at Towcester.
Tote, £4 20 DF- £1 60. CSF £6 41
3, 81 (2m, 11) ord heid. 1, GVENTIME (D) Tote. £4.20 DF E1 60. CSF E6 41
3.30 (2m 110/d hdie) 1, GIVENTIME (D Fortt, 4-1; 2, Andrews Ministral (F Dunwoody, 2-1 fev), 3, Al Sharry (A Maguire, 16-1) ALSD RAN. 100-30 Nadomi (8th), 9-2 kins (4th), 10 Manday Dean (5th), 14 Church Shar, 66 Gunnersbury Roen. 8 ran. 151, 81, 14, 3rd, 41, A Turnell et Wantage (106, 64-30, 51.50, 51.10, 57.30 DF £4.50 CSF, 512.20 Tribest \$104.17.

Placepot: £167.10, Blinkered first time

LINGPIELD PARK: 1 00 Native Chieftan 2 30 Pipers Reel

Dalkey Sound, winner of the 1991 William Hill Golden Spurs at Doncaster and nine other chases, may have run en the see her last race. Mary Reveley's popular grey, due to go to the paddocks in the spring, has a splint problem. "it's touch and go whether I can get her fit enough to run," Reveley said. ☐ Trainers yesterday with-drew their protest over next year's licence fee increases. The National Trainers' Federation had urged members to withhold payment on the new charges but, after a meeting with the Jockey Club finance committee. accepted their explanations

☐ Conditional jockey David Matthews, whose left leg was shattered in a fall at Wincanton in early October, expects to be back in the saddle by mid-February.



THUNDERER MANDARIN 12.00 Buglet 12,00 Stalled. 12.30 Sporting Missile.

12.30 Convoy. 1.00 Ulladulla. 1.00 Dancing Beau. 1.30 DASWAKI (nap). 2.00 Respectable Jones 2.00 Respectable Jone 2.20 Bichette. 3.00 Emperor Alexander. 3.30 Mulciber. 3.00 May Square 3.30 LADY DUNDEE (nap).

RICHARD EVANS: 2.30 Absolutely Fact.

3.00 EMPEROR ALEXANDER (nap), 3.30 Lady Dundee. DRAW: 6F-1M. LOW NUMBERS BEST GOING: STANDARD

12.00 THIN RED LINE MADER STAKES (Div 1: 2-Y-0; £2,322: 1m) (10 runners)

BETTING: 9-4 Stated, 3-1 High Summer, 5-1 Bugier, 5-1 Heart Of Spain, 7-1 The Athatrag, 8-1 Paperhiscouche Mex. 16-1 others 1991: COURTENAY SEE 9-0 T Oxion (7-2) W Junto 9 nm FORM FOCUS

HEART OF SPAIN 81 4th of 11 to Chreston Spick in a makden over course and distance (standard).

STALLED This Sh of 12 to Easen Mercotes in a fusion set of 77 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Mister Obias in a nursery at Southwell (11 to Trapidation in a selfer at Laicesser (11 to T. 20, good to soit), HESH SUMMARY (12 to 12 to Trapidation in a selfer at Laicesser (11 to T. 20, good to soit), HESH SUMMARY (12 to similar the policy of the object of the self-to-the original to the self-to-the origina

12.30 THIN RED LINE MAIDEN STAKES (DIV II: 2-Y-O: £2,301: 1m) (10 runners)

1981: NO COMPRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS CONVOY 27 2nd of 11 to Mr Cube in a molden over course and distance (standard), with ONE OFF THE RAM. (same terms) 107 3nd, REYOND THE LIMIT 2 por terms) 107 3nd, REYOND THE LIMIT 2 at Satisfact of 13 to Fordwish in a malder por 8th and ONE MORE POUND 10th, ONE OFF 11VE RAML 31 2nd of 11 to Strictly Personal in Salection: ONE OFF THE RAM.

1.00 LEVY BOARD CLAIMING STAKES (£2,490: 1m) (12 rumers)

1991: NO CORRESPONDING RACE FORM FOCUS

NATIVE CHEFTAN 9 4th of 10 to Killick in a claimer over course and disancer (standard), with SUNLEY SELVS (same FAVINAZ (The better off) 51 Sh. EASTLEIGH 491 and 10 Sh. ARSANZ'S Male in a handlasp at Southwell (7), standard), GLESSTMATION 12 7th of 11 to Tabus in a handlasp ever course and claimer over course and disance (standard), with UP THE PURLIAB (17b better off) 71 9th Previously, 23d 4th of 15 to Durn Certain in a handscap here (7), standard).

1.30 ALMA HANDICAP (£2,660; 71) (9 runners) | 1 (8) | COUST1 | DASWARD 6 (CD.F.S.) (I) Albert R Hances 4-10-5 (Sect. | B Report 1 (3) 143445 | POP TO STAKE 12 (D.F.) (I) Market J Parent 3-9-3 | G Bardwell 3 (6) 6130 | SPENCER'S REVENUES 56 (Lot Hutilington 3-9-3 | Dute Micharows 4 (7) DO1025 PRECOURS WORDER 6 (D.S.) (A) Marrey P Better 3-8-13 | S Drowns (7) 6 (1) 543240 | SALLY'S SON 19 (CD.F.) (A) Comman (9) Comman 6-8-11 (Entrum Chroman (8) (4) CHASE 2 (N) Y VA 13 (D.S.) (T Homes II) Williams 5-9 (1) Comman 6-8-11 (Entrum Chroman (8) (1) 5-40000 | MEPR CHANTS 25J (Mars S Gay) (C Weston 3-8-2 | J Cultum 6 (7) 300200 | MASTER HYDG 6 (Pyte Sporting Propositions) P Marriell 3-8-1 | D Biggs 9) (2) Comman 6-8-1 (Can Micharows (7) (Can Lood randicap, Looking 7-1.

BETTHE? 7-2 Describ, 4-1 Suby's Son, 5-1 Spensor's Revenge, 6-1 On Y Vis, 8-1 Minister Mycis, Pap To States, 10-1 Precoust Wooder, 12-1 others.

1981: PYTCHLEY NOBIT 4-9-7 Supply Davies (5-1) D Monts 12 on

DASMAND host Missione Si in a 7-numer humbican over pourse and distance (standard). POP TO STANS 9941 Sh of 8 in Albania; Make in a hand-ope at southeast (7), standard, PRECOUS WOH-DER 27 2nd of 16 to Russi (and in a handicap at Follossone (7), beave), with DASMAND 11st. SM-LYS SOH SIH 4th of 9 to Hessu in a handicap here 2.00 LIGHT BRIGADE CLAMMING STAKES (52,280: 61) (8 runners) 6 SS 000000 LORD NEPTIDE 11/ (Max X Domesty) Justices 3-4-_______ J Dates 7 (2) 000000 BELINGED 132 (Max R Examt) B McMath 4-7-13._____ T Wilson (7) 8 (7) 00000 CHERRYWOOD LASS 57 (Mrs R Swite) R Coule 4-7-13._____ G Bardwell SETTURG: 6-4 Respectable Jones, 9-4 Circone, 6-1 Jon Supples, 8-1 General Day, 12-1 Migain Riend, 14-1 Lord Replace, 28-7 others. FORM FOCUS CRECHE best Ampter Episode 194 in an 11motion claims as Southwell lest month (St., standerd), RESPECTABLE JONES short-head 2nd of 8
to Another Episode in a chimner here (St., standard),
with CRECHE (St) bester off) 354 3nd, SEMME
BAY (8) 8th of 13 to Piguite Wooder in a templicap 2.30 INKERMAN NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-0: £2,406: 71) (14 runners) | 1 | 10 | SE2100 EOPRESS MARIECURE 78 (8) (NS A Sandrey Ms It Microsity 9-7 ... It Day
| 1 | 10 | SE2100 EOPRESS MARIECURE 78 (8) (NS A Sandrey Ms It Microsity 9-7 ... It Day
| 2 | 30 | 000212 ABSOLUTELY FACT 25 (6) (it Bernam) C C Blay 9-6 ... It Day
| 3 | 11 | 001105 EOESES BABGASE 25 (7) (it Solding) it Catagoren 9-6 ... IV Byen
| 4 | 111 | 001400 HOME AFFARR 38 (Excelsery Recond US) K Convention 9-7 Represent 0.)
| 5 | 112 | 338313 BICHETTE 24 (CD) (it Higson) R Harrisco 9-13 ... B Resist
| 6 | (it) S00000 MOVING MARGE 22 (5) (it) S C Resist) M Contragular 9-7 ... C Dayyer
| 7 | 10 | 300000 MOVING MARGE 22 (5) (it) S C Resist) M Contragular 9-7 ... C Dayyer
| 8 | (it) 300000 PAPP PORTE 23 (V) (it) S Sorton Bunkon) Lott Hurtingdon 8-7 ... Dean McKloren
| 9 | (it) 002800 MAPP CORDESTRES 7 (C) U Daniels M Dann 9-1 ... A Tucker (5)
| 10 | (it) 002800 MAPP CORDESTRES 7 (C) U Daniels M Dann 9-1 ... A Tucker (5)
| 10 | 000000 PAPP PORTE 23 (V) (it) R Sorton Bunkon) Lott Hurtingdon 8-7 ... Dean McKloren
| 12 | 000000 MAP REDUIREM 46 (it) R 3 Septembs Ltd (it) Beldion 7-12 ... Date Gliscon
| 12 | 000000 MAP REDUIREM 46 (it) R 3 Septembs Ltd (it) Beldion 7-12 ... S Devent
| 12 | 000000 MEALTHY MOD 22 (8,5) (ith) C Resist) H Collegenige 7-12 ... B Berthwill
| 14 | 17 | 0000 RIAND 12 (P Winks) S Woods 7-10 ... Berthwill BETTING 7-2 Press Rest, 9-2 Resistanty 7st., 5-1 Beldion 7-12 ... Berthe Begring, 6-1 Resistantes, 10 FORM FOCUS

FORM FOCUS

ABSOLUTELY FACT 22 2nd of 14 to Goldon Right in a landicap at Southweld (1m., standard), with EA-CESS BASGASE, (50 better off) 10%/ Sh. EX-CESS BASGASE that Monostruck Bord 30 in a 12-tomer claimer here on perudirmate start (1m., standard), BCAETTE 4564 3rd of 11 to Absolute at a femblacy back (80, standard), BCAETTE 4564 3rd of 11 to Absolute at a femblacy back (80, standard), with MOVANG BLAGE (20 better off) 44 17 in.

Salessier: ABSOLUTELY FACT 3.00 SEBASTOPOL HANDICAP (£2,454: 1m 5f) (9 runners)

1981: FALA 3-10-0 M HBL (11-0) J Gosden 7 mo FORM FOCUS VNTASE 12%1 4th of 5 is Kinkisme in a handkop
base (im 21, standard). EAPPERIR ALEXANDER
\$1 2ml of 18 in Modest Hope in a handkop at
Southwell (im 41, standard), with PUSEY STREET
BOY 71b betty off) 13%1 7th and ROUAN TERM.

SECOND REPORT IN THE STREET OF 12%1
SOUTH 10 AND BOARD TERMINIST 22%1 2ml of 16 in
Salection: EMPERIOR ALEXANDER

ALEXANDER 3.30 CRIMEA HANDICAP (52,656: 1m 2i) (10 minners)

Long transferay: Premier Dance 7-6. Oxyamorpa 7-5. BETTRIC 11-4 Lady Contact, 7-2 Makether, 4-1 Va Lille, 6-1 Behreverham, 8-1 Amellysisker, 10-1 Prenter Dance, 12-1 Marrett, Swimes Action, 16-1 others. 1981: DOUBLE ECHO 3-9-4 R Hith (8-1) J Baball 16 mm

FORM FOCUS MULCHER dear Research 1954 in a 12-runtum leading over course and distance (standard). VA UTU ben Twilight Scoret 1951 in an 8-runtum appearance transfer over course and distance (standard). LADY QUADLE 3161 2nd of 7 to Sefuction: LADY DUNDLE COURSE SPECIALISTS

23.1 19.5 19.1 17.1 18.7 15.6 960es 108 77 235 105 30 (23 TRAINERS **JOCKEYS** Rus Emmu O'Gorman N Day T Quan Deta McKeown T G McLasgorin M Halls 18 38.8 18 27.6 25 24.0 62 22.6 120 22.5 35 20.0

Taylor finds hindsight is no substitute for success



POOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

MALMÖ'S clocks stood at 8.50pm on June 14 and the French, though one of the favourites for the European championship, were cowering in fear of defeat. It was then that Graham Taylor, the England manager, made his most regrettable mistake of

Instead of freshening up the stalest of goalless draws. he did nothing. England, confused and negative, drifted to an ignominious and controversial elimination from the tournament and ended with one of their worst annual records since the war. Granted one wish, Taylor

in the final game. I had it in my mind, rightly or wrongly. that he'd got into a rut. Even on the training pitch, the goals weren't going in."
Three days later, Taylor,

who had not been convinced

would turn back the clock to midway through that second

half and send on Tony Daley.

not as a winger but in a central role. Taylor believes that his team might then have

reached the semi-finals, and

he would have avoided the

undignified row which re-

"I hadn't realised how

frightened the French were of

us," he said. "If I'd brought

Gary Lineker off then, I

wouldn't have had to sub him

cently erupted publicly.

eral months, carried out the apparently unsympathetic and illogical move for which his managerial reign threatens for ever to be partially remembered.

Lineker has since openly questioned the motives behind his premature withdrawal into retirement. When asked whether the pair could conceivably be reunited next year for England's sake, Tay-lor dismissed the fanciful notion. "With only a threeday get-together, I doubt whether he could get back from Japan in time," he said.

The year started propitiouswith a 2-0 win against France, who were so evidently petrified by the thought of suffering a similar fate four months later, and closed with a more emphatic victory over Turkey. "The middle part," Taylor said, "was not what I and everybody else wanted it to be." England won four of their dozen fixtures in 1992 and only five times since the war has a year been completed with a more undistinguished set of statistics. The other depressions were in 1959, 1977, 1981 (the worst of all), 1984 and 1988.

"My overall record of three defeats in 27 internationals is not bad," Taylor said. "but the two major tournaments are the benchmark. So 1992 wasn't very good. You go on and put it out of your head but you'll always live with it and, every now and then, it crops up in your mind." He was justifiably criticised for inconsistency. Nor was selection policy the only erratic feature of his thought process. Before the European championship, he declared that he was going to abandon the traditional system "which had won nothing since 1966". Within a week, he changed his view.

He accepts the blame. "I think I should have managed it better. That sounds as though you are giving ammunition to those who are against you, but when I look back, I would have expected myself to have handled situations better or differently."

The son of a journalist and renowned for his ability to cope with the media, he particularly regrets the damage he inflicted on his own public image. He remembers two televised interviews which left a less than appealing impression on the audience at home six months ago.

When Elton Welsby started one by asking him if he

proposed to change his team. the response was unusually abrupt "It is none of your business." In his defence, Taylor says he had been kept waiting for more than an hour for the first question.

During the other, with Desmond Lynam, he felt awkward because Carlton Palmer, whose selection he was prompted to justify, was sit-ting with him in the Swedish studio. "You think, how did I it was because it was the first time for me."

The education may be beneficial. Taylor acknowledges that he will again be subjected. to heavy fire should England falter during the five World
Cup qualifying ties which
precede the tour to the United States next summer. "If the results are not great, you can imagine the flack that will be

flying about," he said.

Although the abuse is hurtful he appreciates philosophi-cally that it is seldom personal. "The worst trait of human beings is natural envy," he says. "I'm not sure that it is aimed at me, but possibly at the position I hold."

FOOTBALL

Keane wants escape clauses added to new contract offer

By DENNIS SHAW

ROY Keane, Nottingham Forest's Republic of Ireland international, wants two escape clauses added to a new contract offered to him before he will tie himself to the club for the next three and a half

Keane, 21, is satisfied with the proposed wage terms of around £4.000 per week, but is concerned about the possibility of relegation from the FA Premier League and the danger of precluding himself from any possible lucrative transfer. Brian Clough, the Forest manager, wants a quick decision from Keane but, to get one, will have to negotiate further.

Blackburn Rovers. Manchester United and Real Madrid are all among the growing number of clubs believed to be keen to sign Keane while Ron Atkinson, the Aston Villa manager, has described him as "the one player who could make us favourites to win everything".
"I do need to think things

over very carefully." Keane stressed yesterday in dismissing reports that he had already tied himself to the club for a remaining 18 months of his existing contract. "I love the club and the offer made to me is an incredible one financially. Any transfer talk is just speculation at the moment, but, even so. I need more time to weigh things up. I rushed into signing a contract last time and I don't want to do that again.

The Cork-born midfield player, almost equally impres-

sive when he plays in the centre of defence, cost a mere £10,000 when he signed for Forest in June 1990 from Cobh Ramblers. Now, his club would probably expect to start talking at around £5 million should they ever feel forced to

Stuart Pearce has been told to rest before Forest's Premier League fixture with Queen's Park Rangers on Boxing Day. The Forest and England captain injured a shin in Sunday's 1-1 draw with Wimbledon.

Stephen Froggatt, the Aston Villa winger, makes a comeback after injury tonight. The England Under-21 player has been out of action for two months with a knee problem suffered in training, but is likely to play for the reserves in a Pontins League match at

Rotherham this evening.
Froggatt, who initially injured his ankle in early October, then damaged his kneed on his first day back in training. Since then, he has been restricted to just 45 minutes football against Blackburn Rovers before having to be substituted with a recurrence of the injury.
Sheffield Wednesday's for-

mer England Under-21 central defender, Paul Warhurst, will be out for up to three weeks with a hamstring injury that forced him to go off during last Saturday's 1-0 win against Queens Park Rangers. ☐ The former Carlisle United manager, Harry Gregg, is to bring a case of wrongful dismissal against the club in a high court case in the city next month. Gregg left Carlisle five



EQUESTRIANISM

Whitaker finishes Olympia show top of money list

By JENNY MACARTHUR

MICHAEL Whitaker's four wins at the Olympia showjumping championships, ending with the grand prix on Sunday, earned him a total of £17,370, making him the top money-winner of the show.

Nick Skelton, who had five seconds and three wins, was

the leading rider of the show. finishing two points ahead of the on-form Frenchman, Roger-Yves Bost Ludger Beerbaum, Germany's Olympic champion, finished second to Whitaker in the money-win-ners list, though his £10.200 did not include the value of the car he won in Saturday's Volvo World Cup qualifier.

Whitaker's successful week was a prompt reward for his sponsors, Everest, whose managing director, Kevin Mahoney, had acted swiftly to add Michael and his older brother, John, to their show-jumping team in time for Olympia.

Ironically, John Whitaker and Everest Milton, who have dominated the leading continental shows since September, failed to find their best form. We were just a bit unlucky."

Whitaker said.

In the World Cup qualifier.
Milton hit the first fence in the jump-off. In the grand prix. they had four faults in the first round after brushing against the middle part of the treble. Whitaker, who hopes to win a third World Cup with Milton in Sweden in April, will now rest him for two months:

John Whitaker always says that if he cannot win a class, the next best thing is for Michael to win it. After collecting his four faults on Sunday night he went to the ringside to help his brother defeat

"He told me where I could

Michael, who had been trying to win the Olympia grand prix for more than ten years, said. He and his King George V Gold Cup winner at Hickstead, Everest Midnight Mad-Olympic champion to second place by 0.68sec.

The win was a copybook end to the championships, which had provided five days of exhilarating jumping and watched by more than 58,000. The successful show formula, which mixes serious jumping with spectacular displays, such as the Musical Ride of the Household Cavalry, was the brainchild of the late Raymond Brooks-Ward, who founded Olympia 21

years ago.
The final evening ended on an emotional note when Pippa Nolan, the national horse trials champion, received the trophy, given in memory of Brooks-Ward to the most promising rider



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GRANDINA

GPANADA

67 692

Whitaker: four wins

Uruguay are victims of German resolve

BERTIE Vogts, the Germany coach, claimed that a tougher policy in dealing with his players was behind the 4-1 defeat of Uruguay in Montevi-

Vogts, the target of intense criticism following a recent poor run of results for the world champions, including a 3-1 defeat against Brazil on Wednesday, said he had learned "to be more aggressive" with his side.

"Until the Brazil game, I treated them like friends. After that. I showed them I was the trainer," Vogts said.

and I am happy for myself. For 80 minutes we showed what football is about. We showed how well we can play

A smiling Vogts, whose relations with German reporters had become visibly strained, said he was delighted with the performance of Andreas Möller, the midfield-

er, against Uruguay. Möller, previously unable to hold down a regular place, scored the second goal and set up the fourth for Jürgen

SNOW REPORTS



Valuable asset: Keane has been offered an improved contract by Forest save time on the course," The state of the s FOOTBALL. BASKETBALL HOCKEY ICE HOCKEY PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Postponed: Mansfield v Oldham. NEVELLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: Pirst division: Midwell 0, Todenham 1. Postponed: Wimbledon v Crystal Pelace WORLD CUP: Africa: Group I: Quinen 4, Kenya 0. RTIERNATIONAL MATCH: Linguay 1, Germany 4 (in Montevideo). NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New Jersey Nets 104, Secremento Kings 98; Portlend Treil Bleasen 130, Golden Saise Warners 114. EAST INDOOR LEAGUE: Sunday: Spriding 4, Old Loughtonians 7; Knaves Crostyx 11; Petcars 4, Loughtonians Market Deeping 7, Cambridge City Spaking 3, Crostyx 8; Merket Deeping 3, Crostyx 8; Merket Deeping 1, Loughtonians 8; Reference 6, Owners TONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Sques 5, New York Islanders 3 res 5, Toronto Maple Leats 4 Lightning 4, Philadetohia F sono Riardeaute 4 Monoson

YJATI . 50 130 good open cloudy (Oxy snow, 21/25 lifts, 36/39 pistes open) 50 90 good open sunny (Cross country skiing available. All 82 litts open) 60 200 good open sunny (21 liffs / 23 pistes open, covering 58km of runs) AUSTRIA Alpbach.... 0 poor clos (All runs and lifts open) 70 200 good clear () (Good skiing. Ali pistes and 21/22 lifts open) 25 40 good open cloudy (Best skiling on upper slopes, 15/16 lifts open) Alpe d'Huez 50 240 good open cloudy (Dry snow on all slopes. 27 lifts / 43 pistes open) 110 220 good open cloudy (Unik to Tignes open. 61 pistes open) 20 150 fair open cloudy (Hardpacked on upper, 39 fifts / 49 pistes open) ... 150 300 good open cloudy (Best skiling on glacier. All lifts / pistes open) ... 60 90 good open cloudy (Good conditions on all levels. All lifts open) 1C 12/12 90 180 good open cloudy (Best sking on glacier, 54/60 tins open) . 60 165 good open sunny (Link to Italy open. 70/73 lifts open) Pas de la Casa... 35 40 good open 3Ccloudy 18/12 (Dry snow on pistes, 27/30 lifts, 41/45 pistes open) 40 good open cloudy 2C 19/12 (7/19 lifts, 6/34 pistes open) Sol y Nieve 20

ENGLAND - V - INDIA FINAL TEST MATCH BOMBAY

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

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Germany 4 (in Morteydelot).

Overseas league results
ARGENTINA: Taileres 2, Racing Club 0;
Deportivo Mandigu 1, Platense 1;
Independente 2, Velez Sansield 2,
Deportivo Espano 2, Belgrano 1;
Estudiantes 1, Huracan 0; Roserto Central
1, Ferrocami Ceste 1; San Lucrerco 4,
Newelts Old Boys 0; Lanus 0, Gimnasie 1;
Boca Junors 1, San Martin 1; Argentinos
Junors 0, River Plate 1 (abandoned at half-time). Final positions (arter 19 matches): 1,
Boca Junors 2705; 2, Fiver Plate, 24; 3,
San Lorerco, 23
San Lorerco, 23
San Lorerco, 23
San Lorerco, 24
San Continue 0, Olympiatos 0; Arts 0,
Panathmelicol 1; OFI Ceste 3, Pierfico 0;
Dosa 2, Xarthi 2, Apolion 3, Edessa 0,
Athinaios 0, Lorisos 1, Lageding
positions (after 14 gernes), 1, AEK Athens,
27
Santi- Sautin 2, Real Manted 0, Attetee,
27
San 1; Santin 2, Real Manted 0, Attetee,
27 38ts; 2. Olympekos, 31; 2, Parashinakos, 27
SPAN: Sevtila 2, Real Madnd 0; Atistico Madnd 0, Logorisis 1; Cessura 2, Real Scoedad 0; Celta Vigo 0, Tenerite 1; Ovisdo 3, Burges 0; Cártz 2, Sporting Gilón 3; Espariol 2, Albacete 0; Zaraguza 0, Deportivo La Corura 2; Atrienc Bibao 1, Valencia 4; Rayo Valecano 3, Bercelona 2, Leading positions: 1, La Corura, played 15, Zibis; 2, Baroslona 14-22; 3, Feal Madnd, 15, 20.
TLERCEY: Genclerotrigi 0, Besilidas 0; Kesshyalka 0, Kocarlispor 4; Kaysertapor 0, Fersebahos 3, Balaistoyapor 2, Bursaspor 1; Gezarintepspor 1, Tietbornspor 2, Sanyer 4, Aydinapor 1; Konyaspor 2, Albay 2; Gatessaray 3, Ankaraguot 0, Leading positions: 1, Kocarlispor, Payed 14, 32pts; 2, Fenerbahot, 30; 3, Gatetasaray, 30. CRICKET CASTLE CUP: Cape Town: Western Province 278 and 150-5 (R Bryson 4-36); Eastern Province 350. Verwoendburg: Northern Transvall 388 and 100; Free State 246 and 3,0 Johannesburg: Transvall 378. BRI 22-70 use a security of the control of the cont 3 0 3 0 TABLE TENNIS LAS VEGAS: Doubles World Cup: Merr. Semi-linear. D Mazunov and A Mazunov (Russ) bt 5 Fetzner and J Rosskopt (Ger.) 17-21, 24-22; Kim Taek-Soo and Yoo Nami-Kyu (S Kor) bt Kang Hee Chan and Lee Chul Seung (S Kor), 21-14, 21-15, 21-14 GM Vaudall Conference

Central division WESTERN COMFERENCE Midwest division Pacific division CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Ment. First divi-sion: Menchester Glants 86 (Lloyd 31, Hutcheson 18), Worthing Bears 101 (Lewis 30, Hish 16); Sunderland Seints 86 (Dougles 20, N Hopper 16), Thames Valley Tigers 78 (Lloyd 18, L. James 18), Women: First division: Nottingham Wild Cass 64, Chesh-ire 25. FOOTBALL. 7.30 unless stated Tennents Scottish Cup Second round

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Spaking 3, Crossya 8; Mericet Deeping 3, Loughtonests 8; Pelicans 5, Crossya 9; Knaws 2, Chelmetond 5, Leeding final positions: 1, Loughtonians, 27pts; 2, Spaking, 21; 3, Crossya 21, Loughtonians quality for English incloor championsship.
NORTH PREMIER RNDOOR LEAGUE: Sunday: Weston 18; Weston 6; Doncaster 5, Swawell 4; Weston 6; Doncaster 6, Swawell 1; Barniers 6, Welson 6; Doncaster 6, Weston 17; Stockton 5, Senfers 2; Doncaster 6, Weston 7; Stockton 5, Senfers 2; Doncaster 6, Weston 7; Stockton 3, Norton 8 Leading positions: 1, Doncaster, pl 7, 18pts; 2, Welton 4, 12; 3, Norton, 6, 8.

SUN LIFE WESSEX LEAGUE: West region: Teumton bi Bridgwater, 85-53 (16)ts to mil; British Celophene bi Minchead, 94-84 (14-2); Cinvadon bi Weston St Andrews, 84-59 (12-4); Victoria Street) bit Woodspring, 101-73 (12-4), Central region: Bristol bit Bath, 97-55 (15-1); Christie Miller best Northavon, 79-73 (12-4); Whitchwich bit Clarke Dumber, 87-77 (12-4); Viste bit Frome, 98-57 (16-0). LAKE LOUISE, Canada: women's World Cup super-plant shifton: 1, K Setzinger (Gor), Imin 10.93sec; 2, T Lebedeva (Russ), 1:11 013, R Heausi (Gor), 1:11.20; 4, S Eder (Austria), 1:127; 5 M Geretive (Can), 1:11.20; 7 M Geretive (Gor), 1:11.20; 7 M Geretive (Gor), 1:11.30; 7 M Geretive (Gor), 1:11.30; 1, P Kronberger (Austria), 1:11.30; 9, C Merie (F), 1:11.69; 10, M End (Ger), 1:13.90; 11, P Kronberger (Austria), 1:11.34; equal 12, C Bournissen (Switz), and H Zurbriggen (Switz), 1:11.80, 14, C Meler (Ger), 1:11.97; 15, A Loademel (Nor), 1:11.99, Overall positions: 1, Westier, 3:1ipts: 2 Witser, 279; 3, Setzinger, 263; 4, Maior, 247; 5, M Vogt (Ger), 184; 8, Merie, 173.

BOWLS

MOSCOW: Exvestia Cup: Ritat: Russia II 2 Caechoslovakia 1, Third place play-off: Russia 1 4, Sweden 1, Fifth: Pinfand 3, Swizorfand 1, Seventh: Canada 6, Germany 1, RUGBY UNION SCHOOLS MATCHES: Barkers' Butts Colis (), Christchurch HS (NZ) 37. Schools 18-group: Warwickshire 53, Staffordshire 7.

LET LE CETODAYS FRIURES

Stenhousemuir v Forfar Second-round replay East Stirling v Vale of Leithen. FA Cup Second-round replay

Bury v Wigan. **Autoglass Trophy** First round Bournemouth v Reading (7.45) ... Hereford v Shrewsbury POSTPONED; Bury v Rochdale.

Macclesfield v Kidderminster...

KONICA LEAGUE CUP: Pre round: Connah's Quay v N Porthmedog v Bangor. PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First di-vision: Lakasitis City v Notum Forest (7.0); Notes County v Stoke; Rutherham v Asson Villa (7.0); Sheffield Wetinesday v Sheffield United (7.0); Second division: Derby County v Gramsty (7.0); Preston v Black-pool (7.0).

NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: Luton v Swindon (2.0); Wattord v Bristol City. Second division: Cerdiff v Evster (2.0). BARCLAYS COMMERCIAL SERVICES CUP: Third round: Besiliey v Crawley Town; Nuneston Borough v Tarmorth, Second round: Forest Green v Witney BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE Tennents Floodic Trophy: Newcastle Town v Nantwich. JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Heverhill y

DIADORA LEAGUE: First division: Wem-bisy v Whyteleafe Third division: Bracknel v Trame, Lasque Cup: Aylesbury v Enfield; Marlow v Yeading; Metropolitan Police v Whenhoe; Molessy v Tooting and Mitcham; Sution United v Boreham Wood. GREAT MELLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bristo! Memor Farm v Torquay United; Dewiish v Clevedion. **RUGBY UNION** Club matches

Abertillery v South Wales Police (7.0) Ebbw Vale v Bridgend (7.0)..... Moseley v Worcester and Hereford... Neath v Gloucester (7.0).... Pontypridd v Penanth (7.0).... OTHER SPORT

WALES CONFERENCE

Pittsburgh Penguins. 23 Washington Capitals 18 New York Rangers... 17 New Jersey Devils.... 16 New York Istanders... 14 Philedelphia Flyers... 11

Adams div

BCXING: British flyweight title-Ampolio (Beithnal Green) v Jame mond (Klimamock) (Grosvenor Hotel).

PORT ELIZABETH: Men's tournament: Leading final scores (South Africa unless stated): 276: E Bs. 71, 69, 69, 57, 278; R Goosen, 70, 77, 66, 65, 281; R Rafferty (GB), 69, 73, 70, 69; H Balcochi, 68, 70, 71, 72, 282; R Wessels, 71, 72, 70, 65; C Devison, 71, 74, 69, 68; M Witshire, 63, 73, 72, 69; G Leverison, 76, 68, 69, 71; D W Besson, 72, 68, 72, 72, Other British: 266; I Mosey, 74, 70, 74, 68.

RUGBY LEAGUE YOUNGERS ALLIANCE: Second division: Huddensfield 19, Cartisle 12; Hunslet 50, London 18. Cup: Semi-final: Leigh 39

RACKETS

HENDERSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: Winchester 0 Seecourt 2 (Seacourt names first): N Danby and J Pictop bt D Pemion and J Alen, 4-1; A Wren and R Guyan bt D Beldwin and N Murphy, 4-1.

CUEEN'S CLUE: Public Schools champlonehip: Foster Cup (senior event): Semi-finals: H Foster (Hamow) bt W Hale (Chekennam), 15-2, 15-9, 15-3; G Rees (Chlon) bt T Newman (Wellington) 11-15, 18-14, 15-3, 15-4. Incledon-Webber Cup (cotts under-16 event): Semi-finals: R Carter (Rugby) bt D Titchener-Banet (Harow) 15-8, 15-0, 15-1: T Liverton (Chelterham) bt M Perry (Wellington) 15-12.

BANGKOK: King's Cup: Final: N Bond (Eng) bt J Wettana (Thai), 8-7. ALDERSHOT: Strachen Challenge: Semi-final: J Swall (Ire) bt R O'Sullivan (Eng), 6-1. SQUASH

DOHA: Ostar international tournement: Semi-finals; Jansher Khan (Pak) bi R Martin (Aus), 13-15, 15-12, 15-5, 15-3; C Dittner (Aus) bit J Boneter (Pr), 15-10, 15-10, 15-9.

TENNIS

VALDCHALL INDOOR TROPHY: Men's second round: Terrils World Medige-brough 2. Ashbrooke Sunderland 1; Topspin Darlington 1. Barnard Castle School 2; Watchrom Alfreton 0, Ridgy 3. Upper Armiley Leeds 0, FG Hallamehre Sheffield 3; Notingham West Bridgtord 2. Boston 1; Batchwood St Albains 1, Clearview Brantwood 2; Purns Weltym 3. Cheshem Three Star 0; Connaught Club 3. Cheshem Club 3. Cheshem Club 4. Cheshem 2. Carlion 1; David Lloyd Eastbourne 1, Ontie Lane Wolfang 2; Malctione Fibress 0, Crawley 3. Surrey Country Club 3, Pavision and Avenue House 0; Alventatoko Gosport 0, West Hants Bournemouth 3: Centrecourt Bosingstoke 0, Metch Point Southampton 3. CORAM CARL ES Eastletin.

CORAL GABLES, Florida: Orange Bowl International junior championaships: Boye singles. 14 and under: fourth round: S Schres (Hun) bt M Lee (GB), 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

STATE OF THE STATE OF Moorhouse becomes

ADRIAN Moorhouse, who retired from swimming after failing to defend his Olympic 100 metres breaststroke title at Barcelona, is to join the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) staff as part-time youth development consultant.

consultant

Though the ASA has con-tracted Moorhouse, who counts four European titles among his accolades, for 100 days of work in 1993, starting on January 1, the new recruit expects to do "much more

Ngugi withdraws

Athletics: John Ngugi, the Kenyan five-time world cross country champion, yesterday pulled out of his eagerly-awaited meeting with Steve Cram in the County Durham international on January 2.

Foster in final

Rackets: The talented Harrovian. Harry Foster. reached the final of the senior event of the Public Schools' championship with a stylish victory against Will Hale, of Cheltenham. Foster meets the second seed, Gareth Rees, of Clifton, who beat Tom Newman, of Wellington, in the other semi-final.

Grand prix hopes

Motorcycling: The Interna-tional Motorcycling Federation yesterday set aside dates on May 30 and August 15 for a French grand prix next year in the hope the race could be reinstated following government compromises on its antitobacco advertising laws.

Breskfast until 6.55 when Nicholas Witchell and Tanya Sillem present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel bulletins (40716006)

9.05 Blood and Honey: Herod's Christmas. Part two (4336342) 9.20 The New Yogl Bear Show (r) (5100532) 9.30 Come Midnight Monday: Second part of the railway drama (r) (79629)

10.00 News, regional news and weather (3407280) 10.05 Playdays at the Playground Stop (s) (9940613) 10.30 Baber the Little Elephant narrated by Peter Ustinov (r) (69700)

Elephant narrated by Peter Usbnov (r) (69700)

11.00 News, regional news and weather (5314174) 11.05 Films Wonderful Life (1964). Cliff Richard and The Shadows star in this pleasant musical about a stuntman who falls for the leading lady. Directed by Sidney J. Furle (30794628)

12.50 Good Morning Advent Calendar. Magnus Magnusson puls questions to Santa Claus (s) (65423919) 12.55 Regional news

and weather (65415990)

1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceetax) Weather (35358)

1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton. (Ceefax) Weather (35358)
 1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) (s) (21863648)
 1.50 Film: That's Entertainment (1974). A compilation of clips from MGM musicals, featuring a host of stars including Fred Astaire, Bing Crosby, Gene Kelly, Liza Minnelli, Oonald O'Connor, Frank Sinara and James Stewart. Directed by Jack Haley Jr. (Ceefax) (98561209)
 3.50 Harum Scarum. Last in the current series which looks at picture books, includes Janet and Allan Ahlberg's The Jolly Christmas: Posiman (s) (6654445) 4.00 Dooby Duck's Euro Tour visits Berlin (s) (7900358) 4.05 Spacewets. Last in the series (s) (2890532) 4.20 The Chipmuniks. Animated adventures (r) (2811025) 4.35 Artifax. Last in the series about design. Includes the result of the top ten computer game survey. (Ceefax) (s) (5618803)
 5.00 Newsround (2305803) 5.10 Grange Hill. Topical children's drama serial set in and around a high school (r). (Ceefax) (a) (8065629)
 5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (e) (189822)
 6.00 Stx O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Anna Ford. (Ceefax) Weather (445)

Weather (445)
5.30 Regional News Magazines (975)
7.00 Telly Addicts Fast Forward Special. Noel Edmonds hosts a special edition of the quiz in which two teams of youngsters set out to display their knowledge of television (s) (5629)
7.30 EastEnders. Grant is his usual cheery self. (Ceafax) (s) (209)



Christmes at mother's: Lang, Pickard and Olsen (8.00pm)

8.00 2 Point 4 Children. Bill and Ben feel duty-bound to spend Christmas with Ben's mother. With Belinda Lang, Gary Otsen and John Pickard. (Ceefax) (s) (4377) 8.30 A Question of Sport with David Coleman. Bill Beaumont and lan

Botham are joined by Steve Redgrave, Neil Webb, Colin Jackson and Eric Bristow. (Ceefax) (1764)

9.00 Nine O'Clock Name with Michael Buerk. (Ceefax) Regional news

and weather (3006) Film: Poltergelst * 35) starting Jobeth Williams and Heather O'Rourke. Four yer a after the destruction of their home the Freeling 9.30 Film: Poltergelst **

O'Rourke. Four yer a after the destruction of their nome the rheeling family appen e safely resettled. But there are surprises in store. Directed man Gibson. (Ceetex) (s) (38193)

11.00 Neti Dilemond's Christmas Concert. The singer performs his festive tavourities accompanied by American choirs (s) (405731)

11.45 Film: The Treasure of the Sterra Madre (1948, b/w)

• CHOICE: Water Huston, Humphrey Bogart and Tim Holt join the

Mexican gold rush in the film that stirs curiosity about its mysterious author, B. Traven, and enswers the quiz question about the only instance of father and son Oscars for the same picture. The veteran Walter Huston won the best supporting actor award for his fine portrayal of the toothless old prospector. Son John Huston was rewarded twice, for direction and acroemplay. He also has a cameo role. But it is not just a family affair. Bogert's study of Dobbs, increasingly bitter and unhinged, is one of his best and most rounded film performances. The Treasure of the Sierra Macire is preparable about aread. The translation is camed in a camed to the sierra Macire is preparable about aread. assentially a parable about gread. The symbolism is sometimes clumsy and two hours is a shade too long. But the ending has an unforgettable irony (712938) 1.45 Weather (7143385)

BBC2

8.00 Bresidant News (5936716)
8.15 Film: The Fatcon in Danger (1943, b/w). When a plane crash lands without a pilot or passengers, the Fatcon (Tom Conway) is called in to investigate, Directed by William Clemens (6581648)
9.25 Film: A Man Alone (1955). Western directed by and starring Ray Milland as a gunman who shoots a lawman in self-defence. With

Mary Murphy and Lee Van Cleef (8584464) 10.56 Christmas Carols from Ely Cathedral (r) (4207822) 11.00 Chartie Challs. Animated adventures (r) (2030735)

11.15 Drift the Mute Swan. A year in the life of a swan and her mate (r) (9903906) 12.10 Mikotaeva Plays Shostakovich. Preludes and Fugues six to nine

(a) (6460280)

12.40 The Lambeth Boys. Thirty years after the original documentary about a Lambeth youth club, today's generation of teenagers talk about the issues that matter to them (i) (9058667)

1.40 Colour TV. Jonathon Pornit and David Sellamy take a journey

through the colour green (r) (21772342)

through the colour green (r) (21772342)

2.00 News and weather (89991377) 2.05 Wartords: Churchill. Rare film tootage that highlights recent stortes of the prime minister's personal war against severe depression (99977377)

2.30 Away in a Manger. Children's own stories and pictures about the Nativity (r) (358)

3.00 News. (Ceefao). Weather (7492174) 3.05 The Entertainers. Documentary following the staging of an amateur production of a partiomime (r) (1494067)

3.40 It's a Small World. Andy Price looks at the work of military model-maker Ceear Milani (r) (6656803)

3.50 News. (Ceefao). Weather. Regional news and weather (6652087)

4.00 Film: The Band Wagon (1953). Lavish MGM musical starring Fred Astaire as a Hollywood star who makes a comeback on Broadway. With Cyd Charisse. Directed by Vincente Minnelli (37229990)

5.50 Life With Eliza. Part three of the daily cornedy series starring John Sessions. (Ceefax) (670025)

Sessions. (Ceefax) (670025)
6.00 Films Up Perfacope (1958). Competent second world war drama, about an underwater demolition officer (James Garner) who is seconded to an Arnarican Navy submarine in Japanese waters.

Directed by Gordon Douglas (78987532)
7.50 Travel Show Guides Special presented by Penny Junor. The programme visits Australia, with Carol Smillie reporting from Sydney, Queensland and the remote town made famous by the film.

Alice Springs; and Matthew Collins travels in the outback (839613)

8.30 Food and Drinic Cirristmas Cutz presented by Chris Kelly with guests Sandi Toksvig and Patrick Barlow (s) (4754)

9.00 Quantum Leap. Scott Bakula stars as the body snatching time traveller. Sam finds himself in the body of a convicted murderer strapped into an electric chair. (Ceelax) (s) (238025)



Ale and hearty: consultant Sir John Harvey-Jones (9.50pm)

● CHOICE: To mark the last in the series Sir John Harvey-Jones

sports his loudest tie yet, a garish pink and green design, and heads for loswich and the Tolly Cobbold brewery. Everyone agrees that there is nothing wrong with the beer, a real ale if ever there was one. But the plant, which was closed in 1989 and reopened after a management buyout, is running at only a quarter of capacity. Brian Cowle and Bob Wales, the sald managers, want to turn the brewery into a working museum. Sir John thinks the greater priority is to sell more beer. It is a lively joust, conducted over the usual agreeable lunches. Then the scenario takes an unexpected turn. For once the great consultant may be proved wrong. The film should be called The Terning of Harvey-Jones, though it happens in the nicest

possible way (661261)

10.30 Newardight with Jeremy Payman (626483)

11.15 Film: American Gigoto (1980). Stylish but unedifying thriller starring Richard Gere as a young man who becomes a companion to a string of wealthy women and is involved in a murder case. Directed by Paul Schrader (674006) 1.10am Weatherview

ITY LONDON

6.00 TV-em (5384687) 9.25 The New Adventures of He-Man, Animation (6559822) 9.50 Thermes News (9023990)

9.55 Film: The Three Lives of Thomasine (1964) staming Patrick McGoohan, Karen Dotrice and Susan Hampshire. Disney children's

tantasy following the fortunes of a cat who mysteriously comes back to life siter her funeral. Directed by Don Chaffey (44652377)

Sturnimasters. Deredevil feats from Hollywood's stunt experts. Includes an exploding car and a salute to Remi Julienne, the master of the car chase (3184532) 12.30 Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen. (Oracle) Weather (1431342)

12.50 Tharmas News (11147342)
1.00 Home and Away. Australian family drama serial. (Oracle) (53754)
1.30 Film: Benji the Hunted (1987). Another Disney drama, this time with a lovable dog who is separated from his owner and has to fend for himself in the Pacific Northwest. Directed by Joe Camp 3.10 ITN News Headlines (7403280) 3.15 Thames News (7402551)

3.10 ITN News Headlines (7403280) 3.15 Thames News (7402551)
3.20 Families. Anglo-Australian soap opera (s) (3257984)
3.50 Film: Mac and Me (1988). A wheelchair-bound boy befriends a mystenous alien and shelters him from government agents until he can find his family. Directed by Stewart Raffill (s) (526667)
5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather 8.00 Home and Away (f). (Oracle) (613)
6.30 Thames News (193)
7.00 Emmendale. The latest goings-on in Beckindale. (Oracle) (3025)
7.30 Jimmy's. A special edition following the story of the 12-year-old Romanian girl, suffering from cancer, who was brought to England by consultant Andrew Batchelor in July (377)
8.00 The Bill. DC Carver (Mark Wingett) finds buried treasure and DC Dashwood (Join Iles) makes a surprise reappearance. (Oracle) (9445)

(9445) 8.30 The Upper Hand. Role-reversal cornedy starring Joe McGann, Diana Weston and Honor Blackman. Laura finds herself out of her depth when she mesquerades as Caroline at a society ball (s)

9.00 Film: Heartbreak Ridge (1985); Tough and powerful war drama set during the invasion of Grenada. Clint Eastwood directs and plays a tough sergeent who has the task of transforming a bunch of raw recruits into a fighting force. (Oracle) (a) (contimues after the news) (1975) 10.00 News at Ten with John Suchet. (Oracle) Weather (479919) 10.20

Thamse news (843667)

10.30 Film: Hearthreek Ridge. Conclusion (8968483)

11.55 Donahue: The 25th Anniversary. A special edition marking 25 years of America's first audience-perticipation talk show. Featuring Joan Rivers, Oprah Winfrey and David Letterman (266396)

1.45 Film: Higher Ground (1988). Run-of-the-mill made-tor-television make sterring lobs. Decrease an ERI great fielding due traffickeep

1.45 Film: Higher Ground (1983). Flun-of-the-mill made-tor-television movie starting John Denver as an FBI agent fighting drug traffickers in Alaska. Directed by Robert Day (302255)
 3.30 Film: The Last Dragon (1985). A Kung Fu expert fiving in Harlem is sent to Chinatown to learn worldly wisdom. Simple-minded achenium yearn, directed by Michael Schultz (s) (273526)
 5.25 A Gartfeld Christmas Special. Cartoon (r) (6245588)
 5.55 ITN News (5524217). Ends at 6.00



Fighting force: Clint Eastwood trains raw recruits (9.00pm)

CHANNEL 4

6.00 Cartoons (87342) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (58209) 9.00 You Bet Your Life. Game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (6545629)
9.25 Laurel and Hardy (5101261) 9.30 Sesame Street (10629)
10.30 Film: Charlie Chaplin Carnival (1938, b/w). Compilation of four Chaplin shots: The Fireman, The Vagabond, The Count and Online the Same MacCo. Behind the Screen (97629)

12.00 Dr Seuss on the Loose. Three animated tales (49990) 12.30 Famous People, Famous Piaces. Ouiz (s) (1989822)
1.05 Anne of Green Gables. Second of a two-part dramatisation of LM. Montgomery's classic story. (Teleted) (r) (20067984)
3.00 The Island that Came Back to Life. A Survival documentary examining the wildlife on St Kilda (r) (6358)
3.30 Transformations: Through the London Gleen. An exploration

3.30 Transformations: Through the Looking Glass. An exploration into the realms of the mind (23193)

4.30 Christmas Tree Men. Every winter a group of workers migrate from their native Sark to the Christmas tree plantations of Berkshire (990)

their native Sark to the Christines free plaintations of behavior (4498)

5.00 Telection Series. Children's animated magazine (4498)

5.00 The Crystal Mazze. With Richard O'Brien (f) (s) (74174)

7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext) Weather (718735)

7.50 Comment. Rita Watts argues that the Queen does not deserve much sympathy for her annus horribilis (901087)

8.00 We Sing and We Dance: The Nicholas Brothers

© CHOICE. They may be little remembered now but in the 1930s and 1940s the Nicholas brothers. Hereful and Favarri, were one of and 1940s the Nicholas brothers, Harold and Fayard, were one of America's top dance acts. This admiring portrait gives them due

recognition, both as superbly gifted entertainers and as blacks who became heroes to their race. But their success came despite a system which did its best to marginalise non-whites. Their film appearances were usually five-minute stots which had nothing to do with the plot and although the brothers are too good-natured to harp on it, race prejudice clearly bit deep. Generous tributes are offered by younger denoers such as Mikhali Baryshnikov and Gregory Hines and footage of the brothers at their peak includes their exhilarating routine from the 1943 film Stormy Weather (8803)



Evolutionary portrait: Charles Derwin in his study (9.00pm)

 CHOICE: This portrait of the great Victorian naturalist comes from Peter Greenaway, whose cinema films such as Prospero's Books and The Belly of an Architect give fair warning that it is no conventional documentary. The first impressions are not reassuring. The lighting is murty and for some reason Greenaway has decided to give his picture a letter-box shape by blacking out has decided by give his picture a lener-took shape by backing out the top and bottom. Furthermore he breaks up the narrative into 18 dramatised tableaux, each set in Darwin's study and illustrating an aspect of the man and his age. Since there is no dialogue the project is essentially an illustrated lecture with a voice-over narrator. But if the form is idiosyncratic, the content is informative, stimulating and largely uncontroversial. As usual Greenaway is not shy about showing the pared human body (8657). showing the naked human body (8867) 18.00 Pallas 2. First of a new series of the spoot royal soap (s) (496071)

10.25 Film: Fools of Fortune (1990) starring Julie Christie and lain Glen, Thoughtful adaptation of William Trevor's novel about the troubles of a Protestant family in 1920s Ireland. Directed by Pat O'Connor.

of a Profestant lamily in 1920s Ireland, Directed by Pat O'Conhor.
(Teleled) (s) (980700) 12.25am Palles 2 (r) (s) (2362168)
12.50 Film: Ebirah, Horror of the Deep (1966). A Christmas season of Godzilla films begins with this action-packed adventure in which Godzilla joins forces with a glant moth to save the world from a huge lobster. Directed by Jun Fukuda. A Japanese film with English dialogue (804762). Ends at 2,25

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VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

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m entre

As London except: 1.30-3.10 Firm. Dieney's The Horse Without a Head (25693260) 6.25-7.00 Angla News (127174) 11.55-1.45 Film: Grandview USA (266366) BORDER

1.30-7.06 Home and Away (193) CENTRAL As London except: 3.50 Victor and Hugo (333335) 4.20-5.40 Firm: Asterix the Gaul (898306) 6.25-7.40 Central News (127174) 17.45-7.46 Firm: Grandview USA (Jamie Lee Curtis, Pariot Swayze, Jennifer Jason Leich) Curtis, Patrick Swayze, Jennifer Jason (198396) 3.30-5.25 Film: Before

GRAMPIAN As London except: 3.50 Film. Wonder Woman (3511006) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9656498) 6.00 North Tonight (613) 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road (193)

GRANADA ALL-INFORMATION STATES THE TOTAL AND ALL CONTROL OF THE TOTAL CONT

HTV WEST

As London watert 9,25-9,50 Children's laterd (\$558822) 1,30-9,10 Film: Disney's The Horse Without a Head (\$5893250) 6,00 HTV News (\$13) 6,30-7,00 Home and Away 1955

HTV WALES As HTV West except 6.00-6.30 Wales at

As London except: 5.00 Cossi to Cossi (513) 6.50-7.00 Home and Away (193) TYNE TEES As London sucept: 6.00 Tyre Tees Today (813) 6.30-7.00 Home and Away (193) 11.55-1.45 Film: Grandview USA (268396)

extracts from Attile, Il Trovelore

and Aids
6.00 Perahle Plays Murray
Perahle, piano, plays Brahms
(Sonsta No 3 in F minor, Op 5;
Rhapsody in B minor, Op 79

No 1)

6.46 The Russian Violin School:
Eric Wen on the recorded legacy of Mischa Eman

7.30 The Tchalkovsky Symphonics: The first of four Symphonics. The first of four Symphonics.

Symphonies: The tirst or some concerts by the St Petersburg PO under Yuri Ternirkanov. Tchaikovsky (Pieno Concerto No 1 in B flat minor: Nikolai

Demidenko; Symphony No 2 in C minor, Little Russian)

series about the cinematic and literary honors on which we have supp'd full, intelligent places the subject

nothing attracting us but what is within a hair's breadth of

disgust". Tonight, Dodd takes the haunted house out of the

fundair. Tomorrow night, it is

Chor and Players and the New London Chamber Choir

armas music, interspersed

under Andrew Parrott per

sound archives 10.15 Britannia Triumphans: Perley of instruments under Peter

with speech from the BBC

9.10 Not the Nine Lessons and Carols: The Taverner Conson

8.50 The Gothic Imagination: The Haunted House

CHOICE: Philip Dodd's

Starte: 7.00 The Sig Bresidest (S2209) 9.00 You Set Your Life (6545629) 9.25 Laurel and Herdy (5101281) 9.30 Sesame Street (10829) 10.30 Pirn: Charlie Chaplin Camival (10829) 10.30 Pilm: Cherie Chepin Camival (197229) 12.30 Dr. Susa Cr. Its Loose (46990) 12.30 Sor Melthrin (69453) 1.00 Take Five (5136) 1.30 Fifsen To One (98754) 2.30 Camelane Paints (1986) 1.30 Film: Anno of Green Gables (62165913) 4.30 The Magic Roundshout (8726919) 4.35 Sot 23 (6877700) 8.00 Bottom's Dream (2225913) 8.10 The Open Winfrey Show (9197984) 8.00 News (200977) 6.10 Heno (967453) 7.00 Pobol Y Own (1667) 7.30 Presents Santa (223777 8.30 News (9822) 8.00 Cyd-Well (6716) 8.30 News (9822) 8.00 Cyd-Well (6716) 8.30 News (9822) 10.50 The Big Batasons (42445) 11.30 Film: Tenue de Sortet (518803) 1.05 Cose

(95579587) 1.46 Inventions (43017280) 2.05 Parry Mason (1777025) 3.00 Live at Three (2712829) 4.00 News (9385551) 4.05 Kept and Alie (7958025) 4.30 Gloss (9578280) 5.20 Out of Limits (33023713) 8.30 A Country Practice (905025) 6.00 The Acountry P (2353193) 6.01 Sh-One

NETWORK 2 Starts: 2.30 Sosco (66257071) 3.00 The Den (98861803) 3.05 Mother Goose (56920716) 3.16 Diven (59833280) 3.30

(69820718) 3.16 Dinn (59830300)
Sharley and George (66342716) 4.00 Tiny
Toons (68354551) 4.00 Hepty Birthdey
(49042281) 4.46 Don on the Den (49047718)
5.00 Fockur (11723754) 5.30 The French
Connection (66341087) 5.00 Jo-Meo
(66269700) 8.30 Home and Away
(66355280) 7.00 News (46346803) 7.01
Cursel (53453445) 7.38 Perfect Stranger
Cursel (53453445) 7.38 Perfect Stranger

Cursel (\$3453445) 7.36 Perfect Strangers (\$4780005) 8.00 News (\$6070193) 8.05 Beverly His 90210 (\$6254915) 9.00 The Bill (2495716) 9.30 News (\$3622377) 9.35 Timuse Regioned. Drama sensi by John Mortmer (\$0392939) 10.30 News (\$3144193) 10.50 The Bakement (74598006) 11.20 Class

(339605) 2.20 Santa Barbara (12073071) 2.45 Maude (\$5683) 3.16 The New Leave it to Bleaver (\$48551) 3.45 The DJ Kar Show (2189005) 8.00 Sar Treic The Next Generation (4342) 8.00 Resoute (2513) 8.30 E Shnet (\$193) 7.30 Ali (\$071) 7.30 Family Ties (\$37) 8.00 Touch (4619) 8.30 2000 Mailou Roact: Pala part of the mini sense (\$5667) 10.30 Stude (\$0223) 11.00 Stur Treic The Next Consertion (\$36771) 3.30 Stude

SKY MOVIES+ 6.00am Showcane (6567416)
10.00 Emeet Salvar Christman (1988): Jim Varney teams up with Santa (17803)
12.00 Shustang Country (1879; Wilderness autwinuse staming Job McCres (59494)
2.00pm The Death of the Incredible Hulls. (1980): Adventures with the sciantist and his angry site equ (72754)
4.00 Dead Men Don't Wear Pleid (1981): Sleve Mathr and Raphel Ward Interact with close from holl-wood classics. 2174)

clips from Hollywood classics (2174) 5.00 Beckfield in Molion (1981): Ros Amold organises a molitur-son foo match (33019613) 7.40 Entertainment Toolight (382803)

7.40 Entertainment Toolght (362803)
8.00 Carry On Emmanastelle (1978):
8.00 Carry On Emmanastelle (1978):
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): Peter Welter
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): Prince's
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): Prince's
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): A policemen Man
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): Peter Welter
10.00 Robocop 2 (1990): Peter W

(1939, tulw); With Basil Flathbone (97735) 8.00 The Right Stuff (1983); Deams abo

7.00em Johnny Concho (1958): Western

8.00em Step Aerobics (49025) 8.30 Cross Country Siding (87087) 9.30 Football — Europeals (89087) 10.30 Step Aerobics (7551716) 10.50 Step Aerobics (7551716) 10.50 Steing World Cup (28045764) 12.20pm Step Aerobics (5735) 1.00 Gernes of Biltons (59900) 2.00 Termin (85700) 8.00 Football — Europeals (5290) 6.00 Steing World Cup (79754) 7.00 Sillend (81661) 8.00 Europia Magazine (8229 6.30 Europia News (1484) 9.00 Fock Sceing (49435) 10.00 Boering (74358) 11.30-12.80 Europport News (89418)

PM Sterey 4.00em Bob Herris (Pill only)

PM Sterey 4.00em Alex Laster 6.15 Pause for Thought 6.30 Bren Hayes: Good Monting UKI 9.16 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 16 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Ken B

Radio 10.18 Earshot, Ind 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10em Niews: Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GNIT. 4.30em World Business
Report 4.40 Travel and Westher Navs 4.46
Programmes in French 6.59 Westher 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 News Lides 7.50 Europe Today
5.58 Westher 6.00 World and British News 8.14 Travel News 8.15 The World Today 6.30
Programmes in French 6.59 Westher 7.00 Newsdesk 7.30 News Idees 7.50 Whatever
Rappened To., 78.00 World News 8.00 Words of Fath 8.15 Concert Half 8.00 World News
8.00 World Business Report Live 9.15 Under Threat 9.30 The Learning World 9.45 Sports
Reundup 10.00 News Summary 10.00 Discovery 10.30 Best on Record 11.00 Newsdesk
11.29 Travel News 11.36 SBC English 11.45 Mategamagazan 11.39 Business Update
Middley World News 12.09pm Words of Fath 12.16 Multitack 112.45 Sports Roundup 1.00
Newsdotur 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook Live 2.30 Off the Shelt; Peter Pan 2.45 Journs Kem
Among Frends 3.00 World News 2.15 A Joly Good Show 4.00 World News 4.09 News About
British 4.15 SBC English 4.29 News Headluss in French 4.30 Programmes in German 5.00
News and Butiness Report 5.14 Travel News 5.15 SBC English 5.30 Programmes French
0.00 Newsdots 6.30 Programmes in German 8.00 News 8.09 The World Today 8.25 Words News and pulsaries report at 4-1 (even at 10 pols and pols and indigen in the factor of the foliation and the factor of the factor of faith 8.30 Europe Tengiri 9.00 Newshout 10.00 News 10.00 News About Britain 10.15 Magamit, 19.45 Sports Poundap 11.00 News 11.00 News 10.00 News About Britain 10.15 Magamit, 19.45 Sports 10.00 News 11.00 News 1.00 News 1.0

LIFESTYLE

10.00mm The Spiral Zone (28434) 10.30 Cover Story (26174) 11.00 Gloss (66990) 11.30 The Joan Rivers Story (2859193) 12.15pps Sally Jessy Rachael (8943005) 1.10 Lunchibox (64401623) 1.40 Sell-Vision (45237087) 2.10 The Ante Room (3488005) 3.00 The New Newtwed Geme Vision (45237087) 2.10 The Ante Room, (343905) 3.00 The New Nawywed Gerne (5442) 3.30 Burns and Allen (6167483) 4.10 Dick Van Dyke Show (8909735) 4.30 Jackpot (7709) 5.00 Concentiation (1087) 3.20 Sel-e-Vision (4290) 6.00 Selly Jessy Raphael (77383) 7.00 Sel-e-Vision (854005) 10.00 Autobox Music Videos (85502848) 2.30-2.00em Top Five (85948)

6.00em Reinbow (10541445) E.15 Chorton

arti. The Williams (10/00000) Seal Tire A. New Popoye Snow (2286280) 7.30 Neighbours (2664281) 7.30 Neighbours (2664381) 8.30 Sons and Daughters (2570813) 8.30 EastEnders (2579174) 9.30 The Bit (2580754) 9.30 Permance (8282919) 8.30 Permance (8282919) 10.30 Casually (3883281) 11.30 Teny and June (1925713) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (2573990) 12.30pm Neighbours (7448367) 1.00 EastEnders (264432) 1.30 The Sal (8698900) 2.00 Portidge (8643759) 2.30 Bread (3849025) 3.00 Dallas: starring Larry Internation (3829040) 4.00 Eastern Latter (Breat (389023) 3,00 Deles, starring Univ Hagman (3820349) 4,00 Severty Hills Teens (3830377) 4,30 Degrassi Junor High (382381) 3,00 Neighbours (154939) 5,30 0 Who, starring Willeam Harmet (3747613) 5,00 Permanic (2593416) 7,00 Pomdga (5943795) 7,30 Teny and June (3820990) 8,00 EastSnotes: (6548303) 8,30 Bread (6442700) 8,00 Casualty (8212700) 10,00 The Bit Duplicates (2591919) 10,30 Aleas Sayle's Sulf (2590667) 11,00 The Goodles (3825933) 11,50 Film: The Lady and the Dooter (1844, bwh starring Erich von

RADIO 3

6.55am Weether 7.00 News 7.03 A Bach Album: André Raison Offertoire du 5 Ion); Bach wentions); Boncorti (inventions): sorpora (invenzione de camera, Op 10 No 3): Selle (Es begab sich); Charles Dieupart (Suite No 6 in France) 8.00 News

8.03 A Bach Album (cont): J.C. A Bach Album (con): 3.5.
Bach (Es erhub sich ein Streit);
Bach (Sonata in E minor, BWV
528); Bonport (Inventione de camera, Op 10 No 1);
Pachelbel (Aria with variations in A); Bach (Cariata No 61.
Alta learn, der Heiden Nun komm, der Heiden

Helland)

9.00 Composer of the Week:
Maurice Ravel (Pario Concarto
in D for the left hand; Tzigane;
Daphnis et Chloé, Suite No 2) Dopmins of Chice, Suite vio 2)

19.09 Morning Sequence: Perobn
(Videnunt omnes); Corelli
(Concerto grosse in G minor,
Op 8); Comysh (Ah Robin);
Haydh (String Quartet in D, Op
20 No 4); Handel (Messieh,
Part 2)

12.00 Bucdshude: Sonata in B flat,
Op 1 No 4; Kommst du licht
der Heirten, BurdW 68; Jesu

der Heiden, BuxWV 66; Jesu komm, mein Trost, BuxWV 58; Also hat Gott, BuxWV 58; Also hat Gott, BudWV 5; Wachet auf, BudWV 100; Sonata in D, Op 2 No 2 (r)

1.00pm News
1.05 BBC Wetsh SO under Otaka
performs Mozart (Overture, Le
Nozze di Figaro); Beethoven
(Plano Concerto No 1 in C:
John Lill); Rectmanistro
(Symphony No 1 in D minor)
2.40 James Bowman: The first of

four programmes in which Brian Key talks to the counter-3.40 Music for Piano Duet: Anthony Goldstone and Caroline Clemmow play Brahms (Souvenir de la Russie, Op 151), Herzogenberg (Variations on a theme of Brahms, Op 23); Dvolák (Stavono Dances: in G minor, Op 46 No 8: in B flat minor, Op 72 No 5; at C. Op 72 No 7; (r) 4.30 Benk and SB: The second of

tour programmes in which Bill Russell tells the story of the New Orleans trumpeter Bunk Johnson 5.00 Venti Volces: Ponseile,

Cabaté, Pavaroth, Caruso. Vickers and Gobbi sing 12.30-12.35am News

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

SCOTTISH

As London except: 9.25-8.59 Supermen (6559822) 6.00 Scotland Today (613) 6.30-7.00 Highdays and Holidays (193) 11.55-1.45 Firm: Rent-A-Cop (265966)

As London scrept: 6.00 TSW Today (613) 8.30-7.00 Home and Away (193)

As Landon except: 1.30-3.10 Firm: The Horse Without a Heed (25893280) 6.00 Str. Tonight (813) 6.30-7.00 Home and Away

YORKSHIRE As Landon except: 6.00 Calender (613) 8.36-7.00 Home and Away (193) 11.55-1.45 Film: Grandview USA (266996)

Starte: 10.38 The Herp International Car-tion Featival (4838822) 11,00 News (47447919) 11.05 Teleratic (24205174) 11.30 Santa Berbera (2538913) 12.00 News (26770359) 12.05 Where in the World (18224359) 12.90 Options (1815718) 1,00 News (2544822) 1,30 Aerosi Pinencial Pages

Angelia (2353145) 6.47 Set-Cire (502236) 6.39 A Christmas Carlo (501690) 7.40 Feir City (103035) 7.30 Head to Toe (5012174) 8.00 It's Bibli (104600) 8.30 Check Up (1955513) 9.00 News (2720548) 9.30 Firm: Lethel Wespon 2 Bull (3bpon, Damy Glover) (4504590) 11.35 News (320899) 11.40 A Prayer at Bachime (3296532) 11.45

(a) Stereo on FM 5.55em Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing, Incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Ferming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day with Mary Murphy 6.30 Today, Incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 6.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.43 The House at Pooh Corner, by A.A. Milne. Read by Alan Sermelt (25) (r) 8.58 Weather 9.00 News

4444. Lines open from 8em 10.00-10.30 News; Coastine (FM only)

CHOICE: Cliff Michelmore's three-part travelogue, which takes in selected spots along the Devon coast, confirms what we have long known about Michelmore (that his reporting is always to the point), and less us what some of us have never known about on (that there is much

have supp'd full, intellectualises the subject. This is all to the good since many other radio programmes over the Christmas penod are going for the easy spinal chill. Last night, it was Dodd on varnouric secuality, plus ample proof of what Dr Johnson's triend Mrs Thrate said about "nothing attracting us but what 10.00 Dally Service (LW only) 10.15 Paradise Lost (LW only): John Witton's poem (35/41) 10.30 Woman's Hour: Jean

McAuley
12.25pm The Priend in the Corner:
The fourth of six programmes
on a year in radio's history

Holman and Mark Caudle; New London Consort under Philip Pickett perform canzonas, intradas and dences from two collections of 1601 by Hens Leo Hassler 10.46 Book, Music and Lyrics: The Old Masters. Robert Cushman Calmen (cartoonist for The Times) wrote this comedy for Richard Griffiths, who stars as a rum beba on a beshop's pastry shelf, Denis Lawson and Morag Hood play George and Alice, whose on-off love programmes on musicals (r) 17.30 Elisabeth Södeström: The Elisabeth Södeström: Ine-soprano presents a personal selection of late-night songs recorded in cabaret at this year's Edinburgh International Fosterol. files tivesters his existence

RADIO 4

2.30 Richard Baker Compares
Notes with David Hill, the
organist at Windhester
Cathedral, and choir members
Francis Pott and James

9.00 News 9.05 Call Mick Ross: 071-580

Devon (that there is much said cider). Today's instalment ends with a lamfic talls about the rescue by RAF helicopter of a young lad who was drowning after his dinghy had chiffed out to see (s).

Snedeger investigates how people pray, incl 11.00 New dicine Now, with Geoff 12.00 You and Yours, with Roisin

1.00 The World at One 1,40 The Archers (s) (r) 1.55 2.00 News; Thirty-Minute Theatre: Sweet Tooth. Mel

Goodmen (s) Swings and Roundabouts: Dylan Winter meets five-yearold John Scarrott who travels with his parents' fairground for

ax months a year
3.30 Punters, with Susan Maring
4.00 News
4.05 Kaleldoscone Kateldoscope reviews The Prisoner of Zenda on stage at Greenwich, and a recording of a soul version of The Messiah; and talks to choir girts about their role in a boys' world (a) 4.45 Short Story: Night in Paris, by Patrice Chaplin. Eleanor Bron reads the second of five bilter-

sweet tales for Christmas 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Westher 6.00 Six O'Clock Naves 6.30 Knowing Me, Knowing You: Comic chet with Alan Partridge

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers (5) 7.20 File on 4: in the second of two programmes, Stuart Simon reports on the radical challenge of Islam to Arab

8.00 Science Now reports on last week's meeting of the British Psychology Society (r) 8.30 Walking the Dog: Nanated by Brian Patten (r) 8.45 in Touch: Tony Barringer creants the measure for presents the magazine for people with a vieual handleap 9.15 Kalektoscope (s) (r) 9.45 The Finnecial World

Tonight, with Roger White (s) 9.59 Weather 10.00 The World Tonight, with Richard Karshaw (s) 10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Escape from Siberia, by Leon Trotsky Andrew Sachs reads the third of five parts (8) 11.00 The Radio Progr

Laune Taylor (r) 11.30 SOS: Matthew Partie talks to

witner of two RNU silver medals (r) 12,00-12,43 News, incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 World Service (LW only)

Trevor England, coxswain of the Padstow fileboat and

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: FM-90.2-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m, LBC; 1152kHz/261m; FM-97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR; 1458kHz/208m; FM-94-9; World Service: MW 646kHz/463m, Classic FM: FM-100-102.

Capters Cevernet (3104622) 8.55 Playebbul (419464) 9.10 Carbons (7686342) 9.30 The Pyramid Genne (39071) 10.00 Sinke it and the Kangaroo (2151716): Animation Bestuful (80764) 11.00 The Young and the Resilect (71174) 12.00 Febon Crest (25822) (1985): Peter Cushing bettles against the 2.20 Dot and the Koelin (9873445) 3.45 Dot and the Kangaroo (2151716): Animation and the accon.
5.00 Delete: — investion Earth 2180 AD (1985): Peter Cushing bettien against the Delete (81957)
7.00 Love Story (1970): Wespie sterring Pyen O'Neal and Ali MacGraw (89193)
9.00 LA Story (1951): Romanisc comedy sterring husbend-and-wife Stove Mactin and Victoria Terrant (91648)
11.00 She Said: No (1990). Rape distress sterring Veronica Hernel (476551)
12.40em in the Best Inferests of the Chilid (1990): A mother protects her daughter from 1.00pm E Street (75990) 1.30 Another World 3396005) 2.20 Sente Berbere (12073071)

SKY NEWS

Wenty-four hour news service

SKY MOVIES GOLD 4.30pm Huckleharry Firm (1974): Mark Twayn's boyhood tale (51006)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

SCREENSPORT 7.00am Eurobios (12445) 7.30 Omega Grand Prix Sailing (24290) 8.00 Johnne Walker Golf (27241) 10.00 Prix Idek (23484) 11.00 Eurobios (7082) 11.30 Top Match Footbalt (48272) 12.30pm Poptinal Brazil Land Land Land (18272) 12.30pm Poptinal Brazil Land Land Land (18272) 12.30pm Poptinal Brazil 1.30 Ice Hockey (77193) 3.30 Drag Recing

(1990): A mother protects her daughter from

2.20 The Four Seasons (1981): Cornecty-charne about three couples (34548052) 5.00 Manuals (1967): Trevor Howard lats in love with a stownwey (36014). Snds at 6.30

8.30mm Stretch (91464) 7.00 FA Premier Langue: Norwich v Ipawich (10067) 9.00 Stretch (37260) 9.30 Boots and Al (25303) 10.30 AMA Supercose (86342) 11.30 Stretch (80209) 12.00 Pool (55174) 1.00pm

Saretch (90209) 12,00 Pool (55174) 1,00pm FA Premer Lasgue (as 7am) (78939) 3,00 Supersistrs (9402s) 4,00 Garne of Billome (85532) 5,00 Boots and Al (4984) 6,00 Soccer News (254261) 6,03 Super Task (51356) 7,00 Winneu Darts 1982 (34667) 9,00 The Poolballors' Football Show (94900) 44,00 M sected News (254267) 1990 (1990)

11.00 Muscle Night Special (17880) 1.00 2.00em Whyrau Darts (75830)

her violent husband (550304)

SKY SPORTS

EUROSPORT

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 4.00mb Bruno Brookes

(Fill only) 6.00 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates

12.30 pm Newbeat 12.45 Lynn Parsons 3.00

Session 8.00 Archive Juleabor: Paul Gembeochu selects rock Intervalence

past 25 years (1) 10.00 New Carrier Stereo S

RADIO 5

News and sport on the hour until 7.00pm. Social World Service. World News; 6.09

News About Britain, 6.16 The World Today

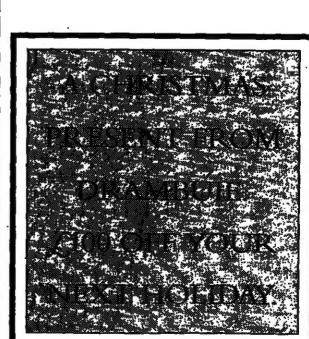
6.30 Denny Belser's Morning Edition 9.30 Table Pive 10.25 Wiggly Park 10.30 Johnnie

Walter's Countriown to Christmas 12.30pm The Preciner of Zende (2/3) 1.00 News Update 1.101, 2.3, 4.51.25 BPBS Worldwick 2.30 A Game of Two Halves 4.30 Pive Aside 6.30 The Snowman 7.15 A Chost for Christmas: RSB Limed, by Brean Jacques, Second of four spooley tales for Circismas 7.30 Sporting Alburns (r) 8.30 Room 101 — Christmas Special 9.00 Cult Radio 10.10 Sersind, Incl 11.00 Sport 12.00-12.10em News; Sport

GLASSIC FM

CLASSIC FM

Susanniah Simons 2.00pm Lunchipme Concertor Televiny 8.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Classic Opera Guide 8.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The Classic Opera Guide 8.00 Classic Records: Concertus Musicus, Vierna: Varna Boys Color under Harmoncourt performs



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FALDO BRINGS THE CURTAIN DOWN ON OUTSTANDING YEAR

TUESDAY DECEMBER 22 1992

Brady demands improvement from Celtic

Rangers look to Europe to solve player shortage

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

turn to Europe in their search for reinforcements before the European Cup transfer deadthe European scene."
Meanwhile, Rangers, who line expires on January

Even thoughWalter Smith, the Rangers manager, does not want to increase his sevenstrong complement of over-seas players, he is faced with a shortage of available Scottish players of the standard he is looking for.

"It's a difficult situation," Smith said yesterday. "If I'm going to buy, it needs to be a Scottish player, but there are few available at present of the standard were are looking for. You don't have to be a magician to pick out the Scottish players you'd go for now, but if they are not available then you do have a

Smith recently made an unsuccessful enquiry about Aberdeen's Dutch forward, Hans Gillhaus, and may have to resort to buying more foreign players out of necessity. Even so, restriction on the number of overseas players eligable to play in the European Cup has meant Rangers have had to contest ties this season with Gary Stevens, Dale Gordon and Pieter Huistra sitting idle in the

"With the amount of matches we have to play going into the final stages of the season. two," Smith said. "Hence the reason we enquired about Gillhaus. Rather than go without, we may have to enter into

reach the half-way mark in the championship on Saturday, are still unsure as to the length of time their defender, John Brown, will be absent. Brown will definitely miss the game against his former club, Dundee — the only team to beat Rangers this season after being taken into hospital at the weekend.

Appendicitis was originally diagnosed, but doctors decided not to operate because the inflammation settled down. He was detained for further

Liam Brady today set a target of maximum points from the holiday programme to keep Celtic on the fringe of the championship race north of the border. The Parkhead dub, beaten away from home for the first time in 13 months on Saturday, tackle Dundee United this weekend then Rangers at Ibrox the following Saturday.

Anything less than four points would force Celtic to drop out of the championship chase and leave the field clear to Rangers and Aberdeen to sort it out between them-

Celtic are six points behind Rangers, who have the insurance of two games in hand and Brady said: "Realistically, we must take the four points from those games if we are to stay in contention. Our priority is Saturday's game against Dundee United at Parkhead. These games are always entertaining, but this time the result is paramount'

Celtic know it is a make-orbreak period. Saturday's defeat by Heart of Midlothian was one of their weakest displays of the season and Brady acknowledged: "That was a major disappointment not our style at all. We simply have to pick ourselves up and be positive. If we can heat United, it would set us up nicely to have a real go at Rangers on January 2. We want to give our fans something to be happy about over Christmas and the New

Clyde and Celtic have agreed to an early kick-off for their Tennents Scottish Cup third-round tie on January 9. The venue for the match -Douglas Park, Hamilton - is close to Motherwell, where the Cup-holders, Rangers, are scheduled to be in action at Fir

supporters will be travelling on the M74 that afternoon, Clyde and Celtic will now start at 2pm with Motherwell and Rangers kicking off an hour

Taylor's bad year, page 30

Denmark ring changes

that won the 1992 European football championship were left out of the party, announced yesterday, for two international matches against the United States.

manager, retained only five of his squad from Sweden — Mogens Krogh, the goalkeep-er, Claus Christensen, the defender, midfield players Henrik Larsen and Kim Vilfort, and the forward. Lars Elstrup. Among those omitted were Flemming Povisen, of Borussia Dortmund, Brian Laudrup, of Fiorentina, and

Testing time: Derek Warwick, the British driver, puts the Footwork Formula One car through its paces during trials at the Paul Ricard track at Le Castellet yesterday. The new world championship season opens in South Africa on February 28. Senna drives Indy, page 28 Pakistan rejects Graveney

former England batsman, Tom Graveney, to be replaced as the match referee for their forthcoming tour of the West

Gloucestershire and Worces tershire player, enraged Pakistan opinion five years ago during the Mike Gatting-Shakoor Rana umpiring controversy when he was quoted as saying: "They [the Paki-stanis] have been cheating us for 37 years and it's getting

The Board of Cricket Control of Pakistan (BCCP) wrote yesterday to the International Cricket Council (ICC) suggest-ing three names to replace Graveney. The men put forward were the former Indian captains, Mansur Ali Khan Patandi and Sunil Gavaskar, and the New Zealander Frank Cameron, who played 19 times for his country in the

The board feels this [Graveney] is not a judicious selection," the BCCP secretary general, Shabid Rafih, said. There are many other referees on the ICC list and we would appreciate if someone else was nominated."

He said he had received a faxed message from Lord's, from the ICC secretary, John Stephenson, explaining that Graveney's remark was a "throwaway line" that was

Graveney had earlier ex-

matter could be resolved. "It would be a great honour to do the job and I hope it hardly needs saying that I would be totally impartial," he said.

Rafih, however, pointed out that Graveney's remark was widely known and his appointment might not be in the best interests of the ICC give the wide choice at its disposal.

During their tour of the Caribbean, Pakistan will play five one-day internationals and three Test matches between March 23 and May 6. The Tests are scheduled for Port-of-Spain, Bridgetown and Amigua. (Reuter)

Border defiant, page 29 Raju stakes claim, page 29

Two hundred and fifty miles

astern, another close race has

developed for fourth place

between Vivien Cherry's Coo-

pers & Lybrand, Heath In-

Tribunal considers Livingston's plea

By JOHN GOODBODY

JASON Livingston, the British sprinter who was sent home from the Olympic Games because of a positive reaction to an out-of-competition drugs test, yesterday pleaded his innocence at a disciplinary hearing in

"Baby Ben" because of his physical resemblance to the disgraced - Canadian spinter Ben Johnson, faces the possibility of a four-year ban if the panel finds him guilty, although he still has the right of appeal. The decision by the British Athletic Federation (BAF) will be announced

indoor 60 metres champion, was sent home from Barcelona for testing positive for methandianone, an anabolic steroid, in a test carried out in England before the Games. The sprinter, who has consistently protested his inno-

cence, has moved from his home from Surrey to Cardiff.

hearing, he asked for more time to present his case and the hearing was adjourned until yesterday. The panel consisted of Dr A Nick Whitehead, a former

In October, at a preliminary

manager of the British team. Bob Greenoak, a leading athletics official, and Jocelyn Hoyte-Smith, the former international athlete. The BAF has been particu-

larly careful to observe protocol for the hearing following the legal confusion which has surrounded the suspensions of Katrin Krabbe, the world 100 and 200 metres champion, and Butch Reynolds, the American 400 metres worldfinancial award against the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Andrew Davies and Andrew Saxton, the two other Britons sent bome from Barcelona, have subsequently been exonerated by the British Ara-ateur Weightlifters Associ-ation (BAWLA). 300 Mg

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13 Assignment writer (9)

Intimidate (3)

Distinctive (8)

5 Drug (4) 6 Small print (9)

14 Snippets (8) 18 Discover (4)

20 Groove (3)

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2977

ACROSS

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- 21 Magician's stick (4) 22 Simmered (6)

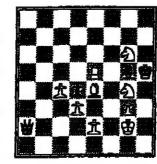
23 Portrait subject (6)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 2976 ACROSS: 1 Transatiantic 8 Kerry 9 Aileron 10 Nit 11 Tuile 12 Cabbage 14 Excess 16 Tea cup 26 Inertia 23 Ganja 24 Vie 25 Obscene 26 Sushi 27 Fall into place DOWN: 1 Take the lid off 2 Acrylic 3 Slyness 4 Thatch 5 Ad lib 6 Terra 7 Contemplative 13 Baa 15 Ear 17 Edges up 18 Canasta 19 Caveat 21 Easel 22 Trevi

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WINNING MOVE

This position is from the game Larsen - Chandler, Foreign & Colonial Hastings Premier 1987/88. How did grandmaster Bent Larsen force a swift mate? This year's Hastings tournament fea-tures the Hungarian prodigy Judit Polgar. Further details from the British Chess Federation on 0424 442500 (Raymond Keene). Solution on page 27.



WORD WATCHING

By PHILIP HOWARD RECIBIENDO a. An official diplomatic receipt b. A way of killing a bull c. A civic reception com-

mittee a. An indecisive answer b. Represented as praying

c. A South African antelope SPINONE a. A wiry gun-dog b. Fine silver and gold Pasta

c. Tumbie-weed TRIKINI a. A woman's bathing suit b. A type of yacht c. An Aleut fish spear Answers on page 27

Copenhagen: Several mem-

Richard Moller Nielsen, the the Manchester United goal-

keeper. Peter Schmeichel. Denmark are to play the Americans in Phoenix on January 30 and in Los Ange-les, probably on February 3. They have won only one of five matches since their success in the summer. (AP)

By BARRY PICKTHALL

RICHARD Merriweather and his crew on Commercial Union retook the lead in the British Steel Challenge yesterday afternoon after pulling back 30 miles on John Chittenden's Nuclear Electric

overnight. Commercial Union, 200 miles to the south of Nuclear Electric, is enjoying more favourable winds than Chittenden's crew, but in terms of distance to Hobart and the finish of this second stage of the race, the two yachts are running neck and neck with three miles dividing

The consolation for Chittenden is that his yacht heads the race on total elapsed time, though Heath Insured,

David Bishop, of New Zealand. That, of course, is an

entirely subjective view, we of

the media may look at games

in a different way for asses-sors and selectors, but it is arguable whether one view is

less valid than the other.

the previous leader, will be compensated later for the time her crew lost last week going to the aid Richard Tudor's dismasted yacht British Steel II.

Merriweather takes lead

Chittenden, who reported that he expects to reach Hobart by January 6, nine days ahead of orginal estimates, said: "Morale is high. Christmas day will be like any other, apart from tinned meat replacing our dehydrated food. Aias, we have run out of potatoes, stawberry jam, cof-fee, hot chocolate and crack-

"Our cigarettes ran out two weeks ago, and the smokers have taken to the skipper's pipe tobacco using silicon paper and Sellotape to keep it

sured, Group 4 Securitas, skippered by Mike Golding, and Pride of Teesside. Overnight, Adrian Donovan's crew on Heath gained the measure of their rivals on Group 4, and yesterday afternoon, the four yachts were divided by less than 70 miles.

LEADING POSTITIONS (at 15:00 GMT yesterdey, with miles to Hobert): 1, Commercial Union (R Mentweather), 2.195 miles: 2, Nuclear Electric (J Chillenden), 2,182 3, Hotbrau Laper (P Goss), 2,344; 4, Coopers 8 Lybrand (V Cheny), 3,425; 5, Heath Insured (A Donoven), 2,499; 6, Group 4 Securities (M Golding), 2,499; 7, Pride of Teceside (I MacGilleney), 2,492; 8, Interspray (P Jerice), 2,720; 8, Phome-Poulenc (P Prilips), 2,983, Petited: British Steel II (diernasted - heading for New Zeeland).

In search of an order of merit

By David Hands, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE exclusion of Fred Howard from England's international panel of rugby union referees for the new year has wider ramifications. However contentious the decision is in domestic terms, it will also provoke considerable surprise OVETSERS.

Howard's nine years as an international referee has earned him great respect out-side the British Isles, in countries where they look cantiously at foreign officials. Ken McCartney, of Scotland, was widely criticised for his handling of the New Zealand-Australia match of 1991, partly because he was perceived as being the third or fourth best in his country, and the contending countries felt they deserved better than that.

Decisions made on domes tic grounds impinge on the international community. The Rugby Football Union's appointments committee is well aware of that, yet they may be less aware of the quality, or lack of it, in some of the major rugby playing countries

Travels around the world

suggest that Australia, New

Zealand and South Africa

between them have only one

official of Howard's calibre,

The appointments commit-tee is looking for the indefinable element of form that will ensure a referee's survival in the heat of an international. It will take into account the marks awarded by assessors to referees, but will also make its own independent judgment of character. There Howard has proved

himself time and again. His reputation as a disciplinarian is well known. If his marks suggest that his standard has not slipped below the levels of his main rivals in England, and they do, then it is hard to understand why he has lost his place. Howard, of course, has strayed into that dangerous

area occupied only by the best referees: those confident enough in their judgment that they whistle according to the spirit as well as the letter of the laws, and that can sometimes mean skirting round the latter. It does leave them open to criticism that they are putting themselves above the law, whereas they are probably the men whose experience allows them to understand best what players are trying to

Howard's union has proposed a system based on merit rather than rota for five nations' championship appointments. Such a system was given an airing by English and Welsh representatives during the World Cup referee conference last year and met French opposition; it was raised again during a recent five nations' commit-

change is yet apparent. What has been proposed is a neutral appointments committee consisting of the chairmen of the existing selection panels of the five competing countries, and taking into account that a southern hemisphere referee will customarireceive two games in the

hampionship. Such a committee would be aware of the in-form referees - and form for officials can fluctuate during a season -and would appoint accordingly as the championship progressed. Thus a grand slam match, for instance, would be assured of the most experienced official available.

It would take into account the possibility that some countries, though they might not necessarily admit it, lacked any officials of appropriate standing. A central authority would monitor the performance of referees and recommend accordingly when close-season internationals were being considered. Such a system would not necessarily ensure that a specific referee. such as Howard, would be appointed but it would at least have the merit of merit.

Lloyd's call up, page 28

AFTER DRINKING A BOTTLE OF THE SINGLETON. THE JUDGES WERE SINGING ITS PRAISES.

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